

NO. 16 - APRIL

# FORBIDDEN WORLDS

10¢

HA-HA! WELL  
DONE, MY LITTLE  
ONE... YOU'VE FREED  
ME FROM THE  
GRAVE!

Only  
A DOLL, A SMALL  
WOODEN EFFIGY... BUT  
WITHIN IT LURKED  
**BLACK MAGIC...**  
AND AN EVIL WHICH  
TRANSCENDED DEATH  
ITSELF! FOR THRILLS  
AND CHILLS, READ...  
"The DOLL!"

EBEN  
CRUTCH

BORN  
DIED





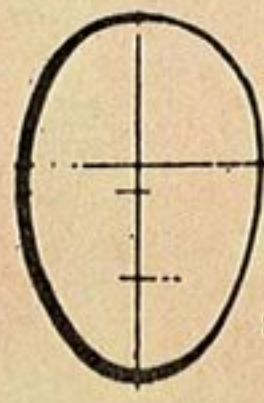
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STEP 2



STEP 3



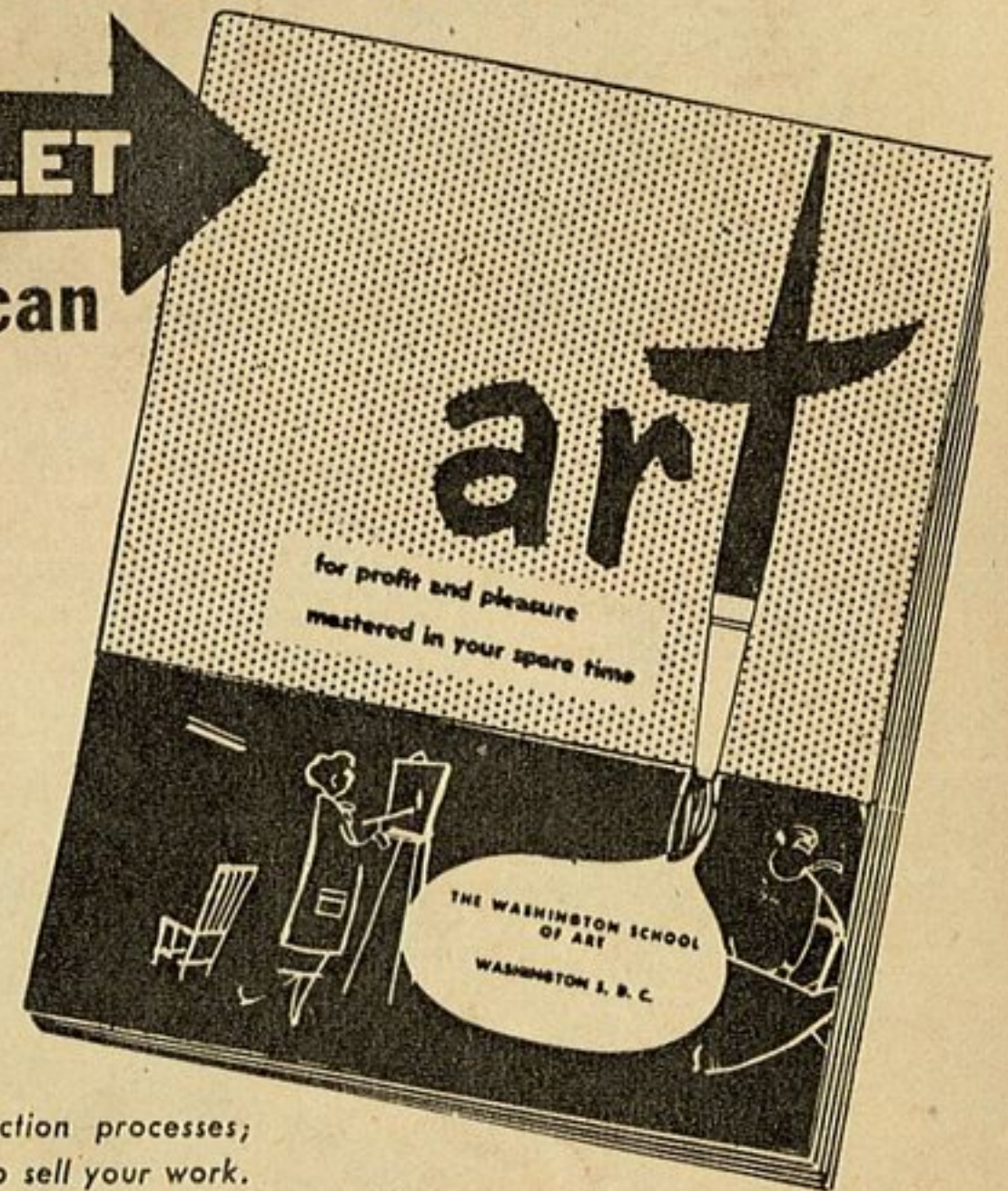
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# The DOLL



**T**HERE WAS EVIL IN THE OLD HOUSE--IN ALL OF ITS HIDDEN CORNERS AND BROODING SHADOWS! LIKE A MONSTROUS CAT, IT BIDED ITS TIME! AND ALL THAT WAS NEEDED TO SET IT FORTH WAS A CHILDISH DARE, THE TOUCH OF A MORTAL HAND, AND THE TERRIBLE POWERS OF--  
**THE DOLL!**

ONE DARK EVENING, NOT FAR FROM THE SHADOWY BULK OF A DESERTED HOUSE--

IT...IT SURE LOOKS **SCAREY**, BOBBY! NO ONE'S GONE NEAR IT SINCE OLD MAN EBEN DIED, AND I DON'T **BLAME 'EM!** EVERYONE SAYS HE WAS A **WIZARD!**

THAT'S **KID STUFF!** WE PROMISED THE GANG WE'D GO IN, AND WE'RE NOT BACKIN' DOWN NOW!

GOLLY, IT'S AWFUL **DARK!** D-DON'T YA THINK WE OUGHTA GO BACK?

AN' BE CALLED **YELLOW?** NOTHIN' DOIN'! C'MON, THERE'S NOTHIN' TO BE SCARED OF!





WITH CAUTIOUS STEPS AND POUNDING HEARTS, THE BOYS ENTERED A CLUTTERED ROOM! THEN--

HEY, LOOK WHAT I FOUND! A **DOLL BOX**, WITH A REAL GOOD DOLL INSIDE! I'M GONNA GIVE IT TO MY KID SISTER FOR A PRESENT!

BETTER NOT, BOBBY! IT LOOKS PLENTY **CREEPY!**

YOU'RE LOONEY! IT'S -- **HUH? WHAT'S THAT?**

**HEH-HEH-HEH! HEEEEEE-HEEEEEEE!**

I DUNNO! AND I AIN'T **WAITIN'** TO FIND OUT!

AS THEY FLEE FROM THE HOUSE--

YOU SHOULDN'TA TAKEN THE DOLL! I-- I'LL BET ANYTHING THAT NOISE WAS OLD EBEN'S **GHOST!**

THAT'S KID STUFF, I TELL YA. I BET IT WAS NOTHIN' BUT AN OLD **TRAMP!**

LATER, AT BOBBY'S HOME--

AN' IT'S YOURS FOR KEEPS, JANIE-- ONLY YOU MUGN'T TELL ANYONE WHERE I GOT IT!

I PROMISE, BOBBY! GOLLY, IT'S SO FUNNY AN' WRINKLED-- I'LL CALL HIM **BOJO** AN' HE'LL SLEEP IN MY SEWING BOX EVERY NIGHT!

BUT THAT SAME NIGHT, AS JANIE PEACEFULLY GLUMBERED, A MENACING CHANGE TOOK PLACE IN THE LITTLE DOLL! THE EYES SUDDENLY GLITTERED WITH EVIL, THE MOUTH PINCHED INTO A WICKED GRIN--

**GRRR!! WUF! WUF!**

DISTURBED BY THE GROWLS, JANIE AWOKE --TO AN **INCREDIBLE SIGHT!**

IT-- IT'S **BOJO!** HE'S **ALIVE--** AND HURTING TIPPY WITH THAT NEEDLE! **STOP IT, BOJO! STOP IT AT ONCE!**

**HEH-HEH-HEH!**

MOMMY, DADDY... **HELP!**

**VIPE!**



THE FAMILY ARRIVED QUICKLY! THEN, AS JANIE SOBBED OUT HER STORY--

HE **WAS** ALIVE, MOMMY.. AN' AWFUL! MAKE BOBBY TAKE HIM BACK! I.. I DON'T LIKE BOJO!

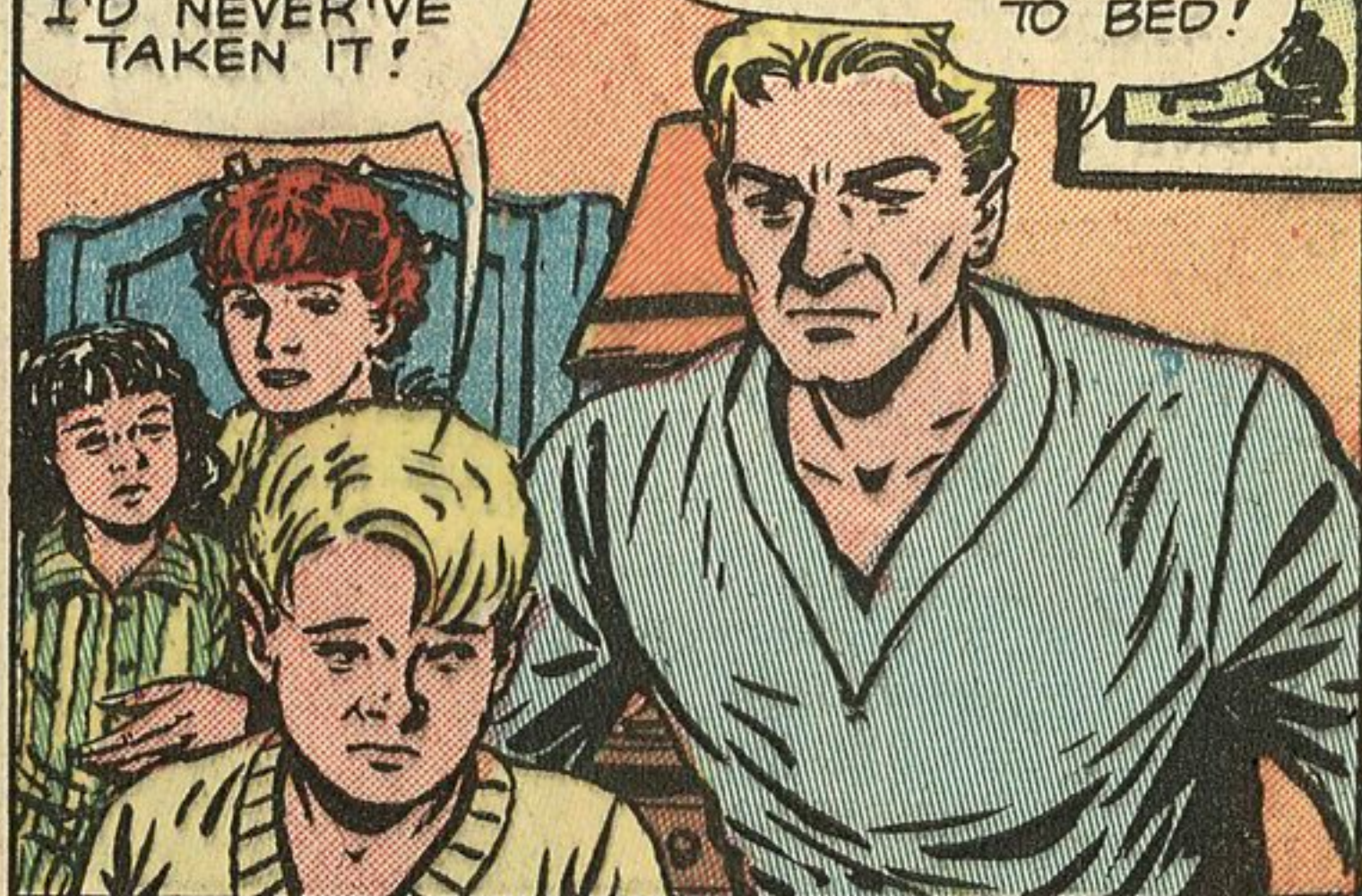
TAKE **WHAT** BACK, BOBBY? WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?



AFTER BOBBY EXPLAINS--

... AN' THAT'S THE WHOLE STORY, DAD ... **HONEST!** IF I'DA KNOWN WHAT KINDA DOLL IT REALLY WAS-- I'D NEVER'VE TAKEN IT!

IT WAS WRONG TO TAKE IT REGARDLESS, BOBBY-- BUT WE'LL DISCUSS IT FURTHER IN THE MORNING! RIGHT NOW ALL OF US HAD BETTER GET BACK TO BED!



I'M **WORRIED**, FRANK! JANIE DOESN'T MAKE UP STORIES, AND BOBBY ADMITS HAVING TAKEN THE DOLL FROM THAT TERRIBLE OLD HOUSE! DO YOU THINK---

I DON'T KNOW **WHAT** TO THINK, ELLEN! THE PLACE HAS A BAD REPUTATION, BUT A DOLL THAT COULD COME TO **LIFE**-- IT'S TOO **FAN-TASTIC!** STILL-- **WHAT** HAPPENED TO IT?

BUT IN A SMALL CEMETERY-- NOT FAR OFF--

HEH-HEH-HEH! I AM **HERE**, MASTER! THE MOMENT HAS COME-- **AT LAST!**



COME, MASTER! RISE-- **RISE FROM THE GRAVE!**



WITH BLINDING SPEED, THE SHIFTING SPIRAL OF SMOKE TAKES ON SHAPE AND FORM, GROWS SHARP IN DETAIL, AND THEN GIVES VENT TO BLOOD-CHILLING LAUGHTER--

**HA! HA! HA!** WELL DONE, MY LITTLE ONE! I AM **FREE-- FREE!**

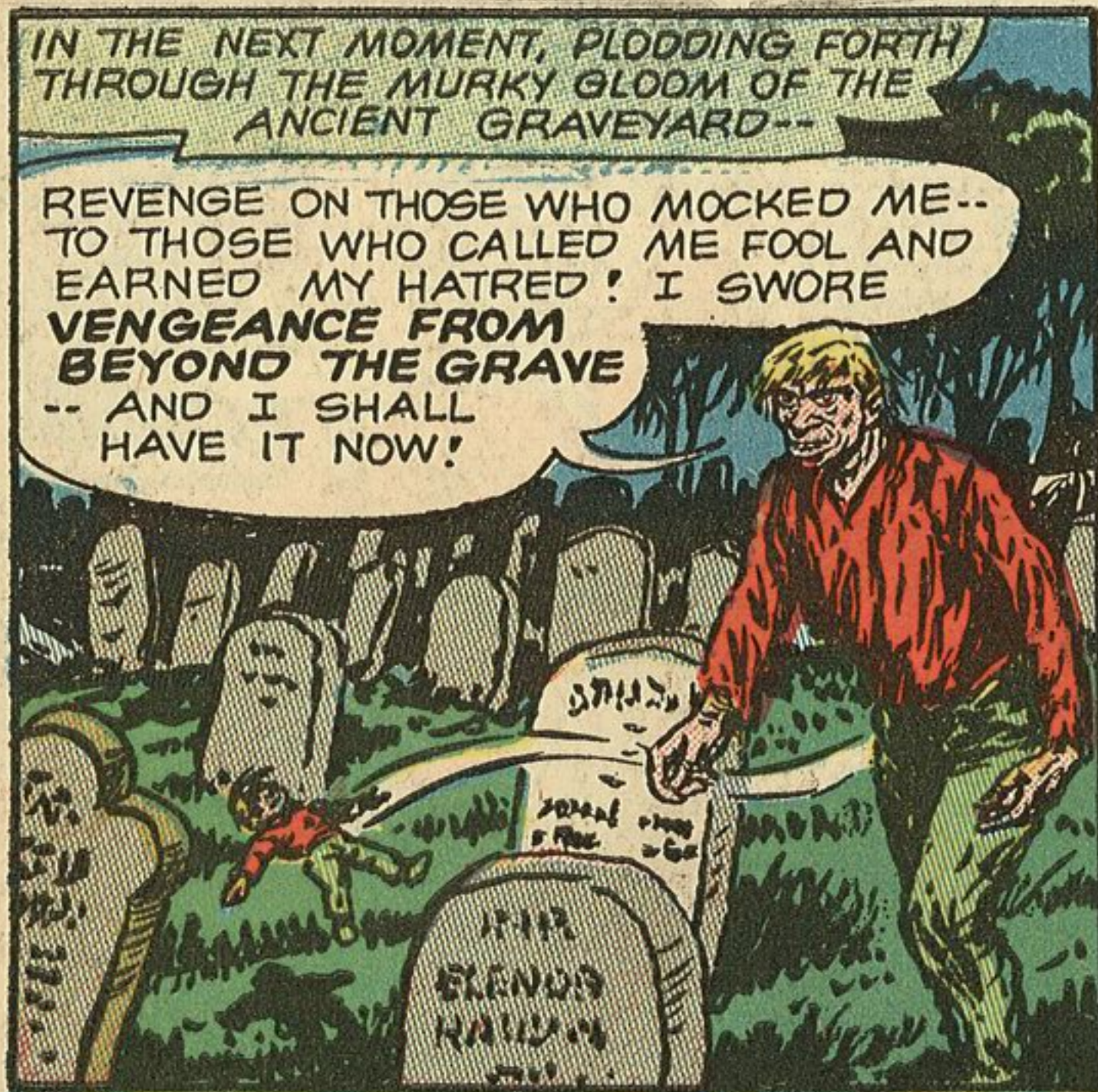


THEN, A STARTLING CHANGE, AS THE SPECTRAL FIGURE BECOMES ONE OF FLESH AND BLOOD--

MY MAGIC **WORKED!** I **LIVE** AGAIN! IN YOU, MY LITTLE DOLL, I HAD PLACED MY MOST POWERFUL SPELL! THE ONE CONDITION HAS BEEN FULFILLED! YOUR RELEASE BY A **MORTAL HAND** HAS SET THE MAGIC IN MOTION! NOW-- TO EXACT MY **REVENGE!**







IN THE NEXT MOMENT, PLODDING FORTH THROUGH THE MURKY GLOOM OF THE ANCIENT GRAVEYARD--

REVENGE ON THOSE WHO MOCKED ME-- TO THOSE WHO CALLED ME FOOL AND EARNED MY HATRED! I SWORE **VENGEANCE FROM BEYOND THE GRAVE**-- AND I SHALL HAVE IT NOW!

TWO NIGHTS LATER, ON A DESERTED STREET--

HE COMES! THE FAMOUS JUDGE, **ROBERT PEABODY**! HE DRAGGED ME INTO COURT, TRIED TO LINK ME WITH CRIME! HOW I HATED HIM-- THIRSTED FOR REVENGE, **AND NOW---**



WHO ARE-- **NO! IT CAN'T BE! YOU'RE DEAD--DEAD AND BURIED!**

BUT I'VE COME **BACK...**



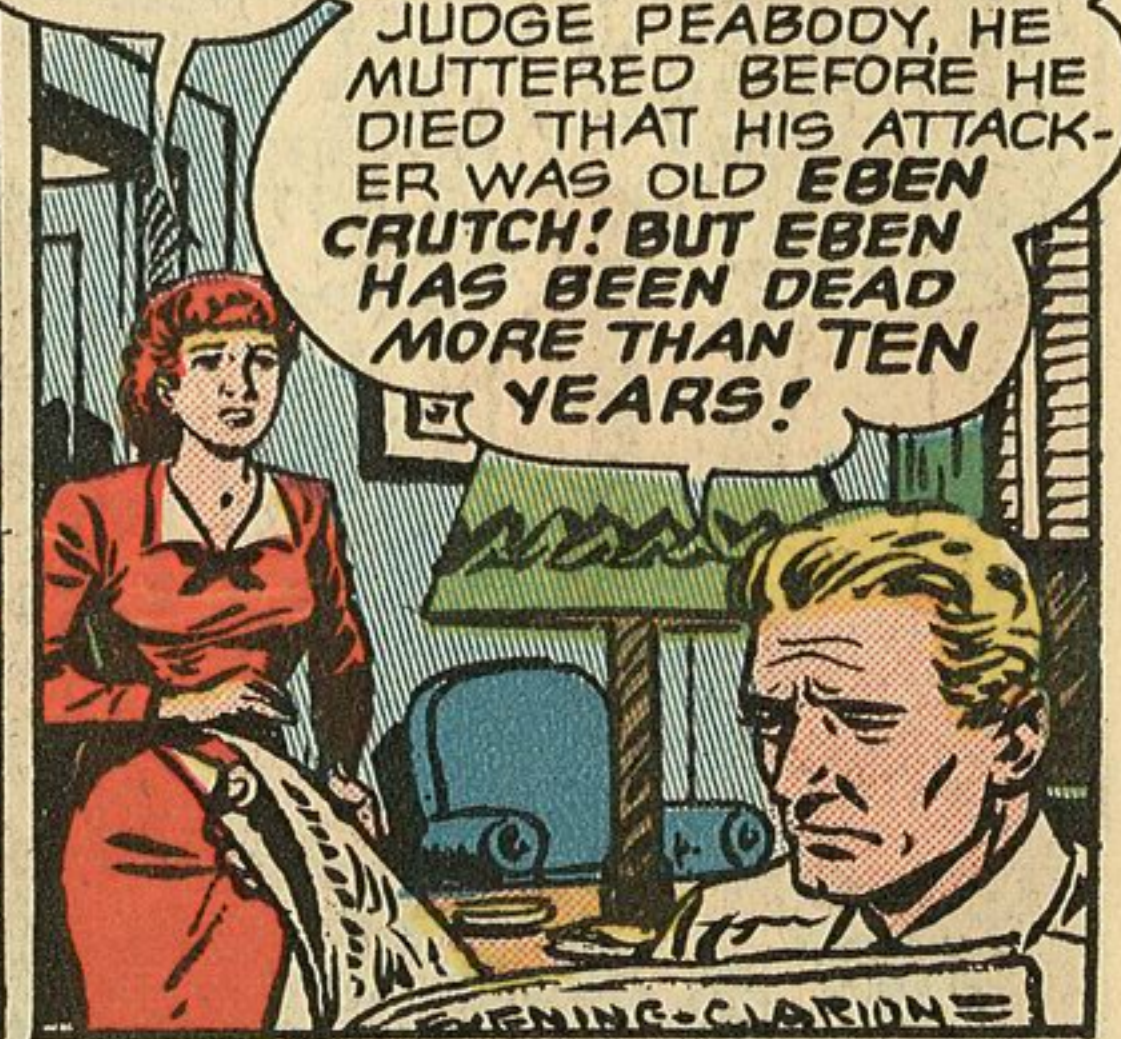
...TO **KILL!**

**NO! HELP... ARGHHH!**

TWO MORE DEATHS FOLLOWED IN AS MANY DAYS, AND IN EACH CASE THE PATTERN WAS THE SAME--

**ANOTHER, FRANK?**

YES, AND THIS TIME IT WAS MR. CONROY, THE CHEMIST! JUST LIKE JUDGE PEABODY, HE MUTTERED BEFORE HE DIED THAT HIS ATTACKER WAS OLD **EBEN CRUTCH!** BUT **EBEN HAS BEEN DEAD MORE THAN TEN YEARS!**



FRANK, REMEMBER THAT **DOLL** THAT BOBBY BROUGHT HOME? JANIE SAID IT LOOKED LIKE AN **UGLY OLD MAN!** DO YOU THINK---

IT OCCURRED TO ME, **TOO**, ELLEN-- AND I'VE DONE SOME **RESEARCH** ON THE SUBJECT! I'M CONVINCED THAT IT WAS AN **EFFIGY MADE BY EBEN** BEFORE HE DIED! I CAN'T EXPLAIN **HOW**, BUT THROUGH SOME SUPERNATURAL POWER, THAT **DOLL** MAY HAVE RESTORED **EBEN TO LIFE!**



BUT WHAT ARE WE TO **DO?** THAT FIEND IS OUT TO KILL EVERY PERSON HE DIS- LIKED!

I KNOW, BUT THERE MAY BE SOME WAY OF **STOP- PING** HIM! THAT RESEARCH GAVE ME A CLUE! IT'S A LONG SHOT AND IT MEANS GOING TO THE CEMETERY WHERE **EBEN** WAS BURIED -- **BUT IT'S A CHANCE I'LL HAVE TO TAKE!**



AT THAT MOMENT, AT THE  
OLD DWELLING--

I-- I JUST **HAD** TO COME BACK!  
I **BELIEVE** THOSE NEWSPAPER  
STORIES ABOUT OLD EBEN  
COMING BACK FROM THE  
GRAVE! IF SO, HE'S SURE  
TO BE HIDING **HERE!** I'LL  
LOOK AROUND, AN' IF I  
TURN UP SOMETHIN'-- I'LL  
GO STRAIGHT TO  
THE POLICE!

AN HOUR LATER--

THIS IS THE LAST  
ROOM, AN' NO SIGN  
OF ANYTHING!  
GUESS MY HUNCH  
WASN'T MUCH  
GOOD AFTER---

NECCHI  
GORO  
ANGUNZZI  
BRECH!  
KARI,  
KARI,  
KETCH!

THAT VOICE  
--IT'S COMING  
FROM--  
FROM  
BEHIND  
THIS  
WALL!

CAUTIOUSLY, BOBBY REACHED  
OUT! THEN--

IT'S **OPENING!**  
IT'S A-- **SECRET  
PANEL!**

**AHA! AN INTRUDER!**  
YOU'LL **PAY** FOR  
THIS-- WITH YOUR  
**LIFE!**

**OOOPS!**

DESPERATELY, BOBBY STRUGGLED TO  
REGAIN HIS FEET, BUT--

M-- MY  
BODY--  
IT'S  
GETTING  
**STIFF!**  
I-- I  
CAN'T--

YOU'RE UNDER THE SPELL  
OF MY **MAGIC!** THE  
STRENGTH DRAINS FROM  
YOUR BODY! YOU  
CANNOT RAISE A  
FINGER OR MAKE  
THE SLIGHTEST  
OUTCRY!

YOURS SHALL BE NO **ORDINARY** DEATH!  
IN A MOMENT I WILL PRONOUNCE THE  
PROPER WORDS-- AND MY **MAGIC** WILL  
WHIRL YOU OFF INTO THE **BLACK  
BEYOND**-- THERE TO SUFFER  
WRITHING TORTURE FOR  
ALL ETERNITY!



MEANWHILE, AT THE FORSAKEN CEMETERY--



**FRANK!**  
I HAD TO  
FOLLOW YOU!  
**BOBBY'S  
GONE!**

**GONE?  
WHERE?**

**TO THAT AWFUL HOUSE!**  
HE MADE JANIE PROMISE  
NOT TO TELL, BUT SHE  
BECAME FRIGHTENED!  
OH, FRANK-- WE'VE GOT  
TO **DO** SOMETHING!  
THAT FIEND WON'T  
STOP AT---

**STEADY, DEAR!**  
EVERYTHING  
IS SET HERE!  
BETTER START  
PRAYING--  
BECAUSE  
**IT'S GOT TO  
WORK!**



**B... BUT--  
WHAT  
ARE  
YOU  
DOING?**

**SETTING FIRE TO  
EBEN'S GRAVE, ELLEN!**  
ACCORDING TO THE ANCIENT  
BOOKS I READ, THE  
BURNING OF A GRAVE  
WILL DESTROY ITS  
OCCUPANT, **NO MATTER  
WHAT FORM IT MAY  
HAVE TAKEN!**



**AT THAT EXACT  
MOMENT--**

**NOW YOU MUST DIE,  
LITTLE FOOL! NEDRU  
BAKKO AKRO--  
WHAT TH--? WHAT'S  
HAPPEN-  
ING?**



**THEN, IN A SUDDEN SWIRL  
OF FLAME--**

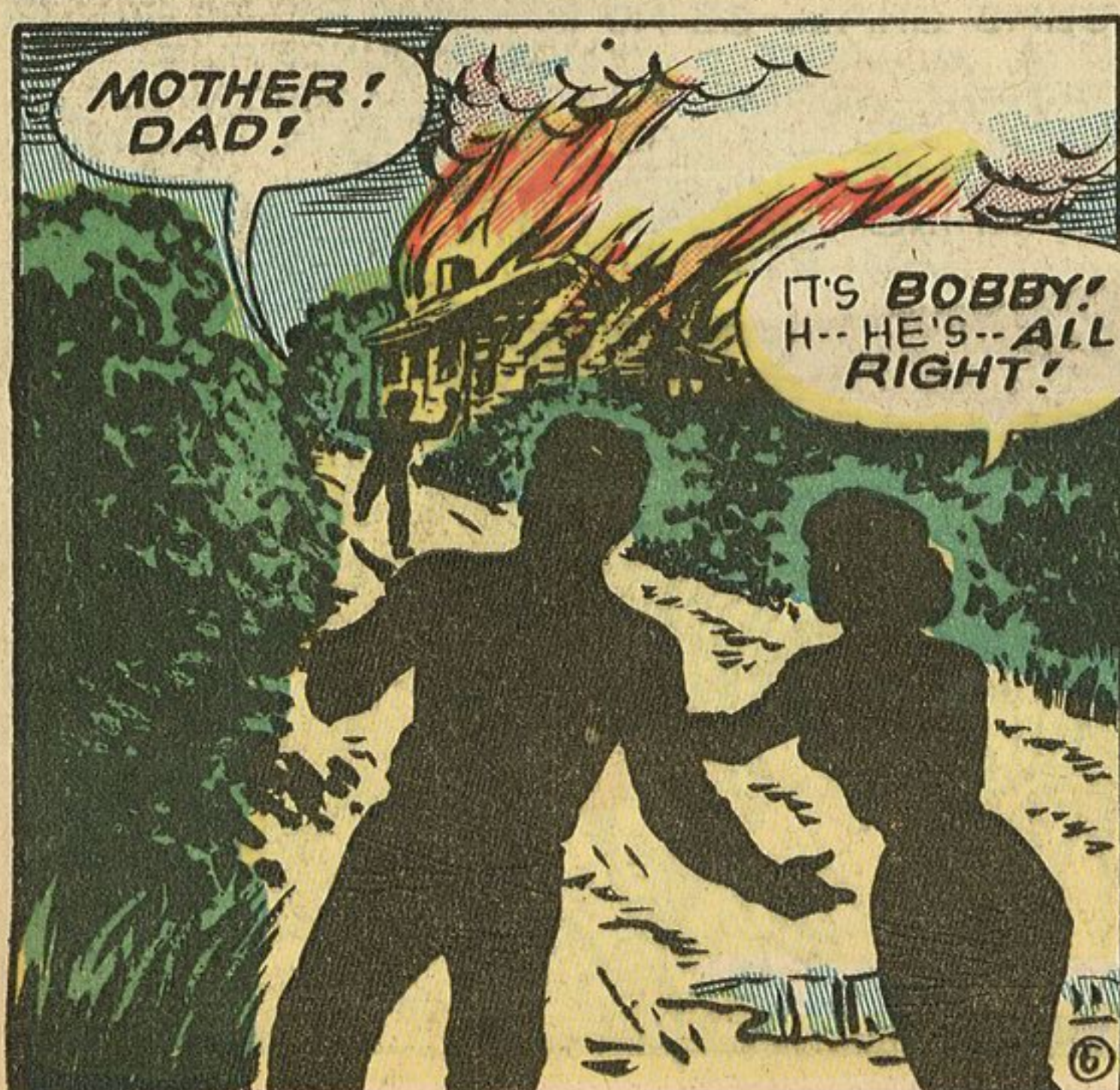
**NO-- NO!  
ARGHHH!**

**HE'S ON FIRE!  
SOMETHING'S  
BROKEN THE  
SPELL, AND  
NOW'S MY  
CHANCE TO  
ESCAPE!**



**MOTHER!  
DAD!**

**IT'S BOBBY!  
H-- HE'S-- ALL  
RIGHT!**



**IT'S ALL RIGHT,  
BOBBY! HE  
CAN'T HARM  
YOU NOW!**

**NOR ANYONE ELSE,  
EITHER! OLD EBEN AND  
HIS EVIL POWER HAVE  
GONE UP IN SMOKE  
AND FLAME! AND THIS  
TIME, HE REMAINS  
DEAD-- FOR ALL  
ETERNITY!**



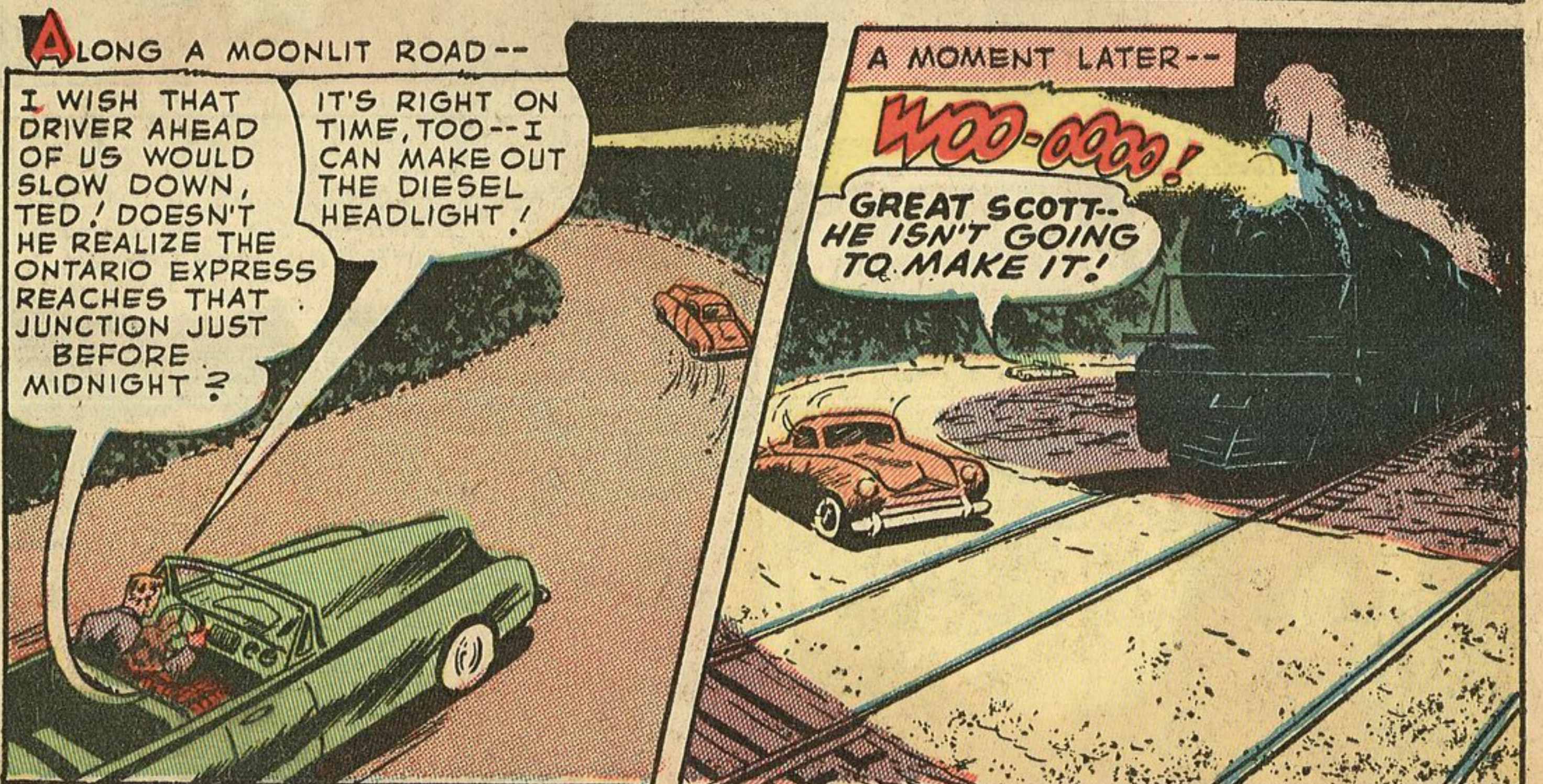
**THE  
END**



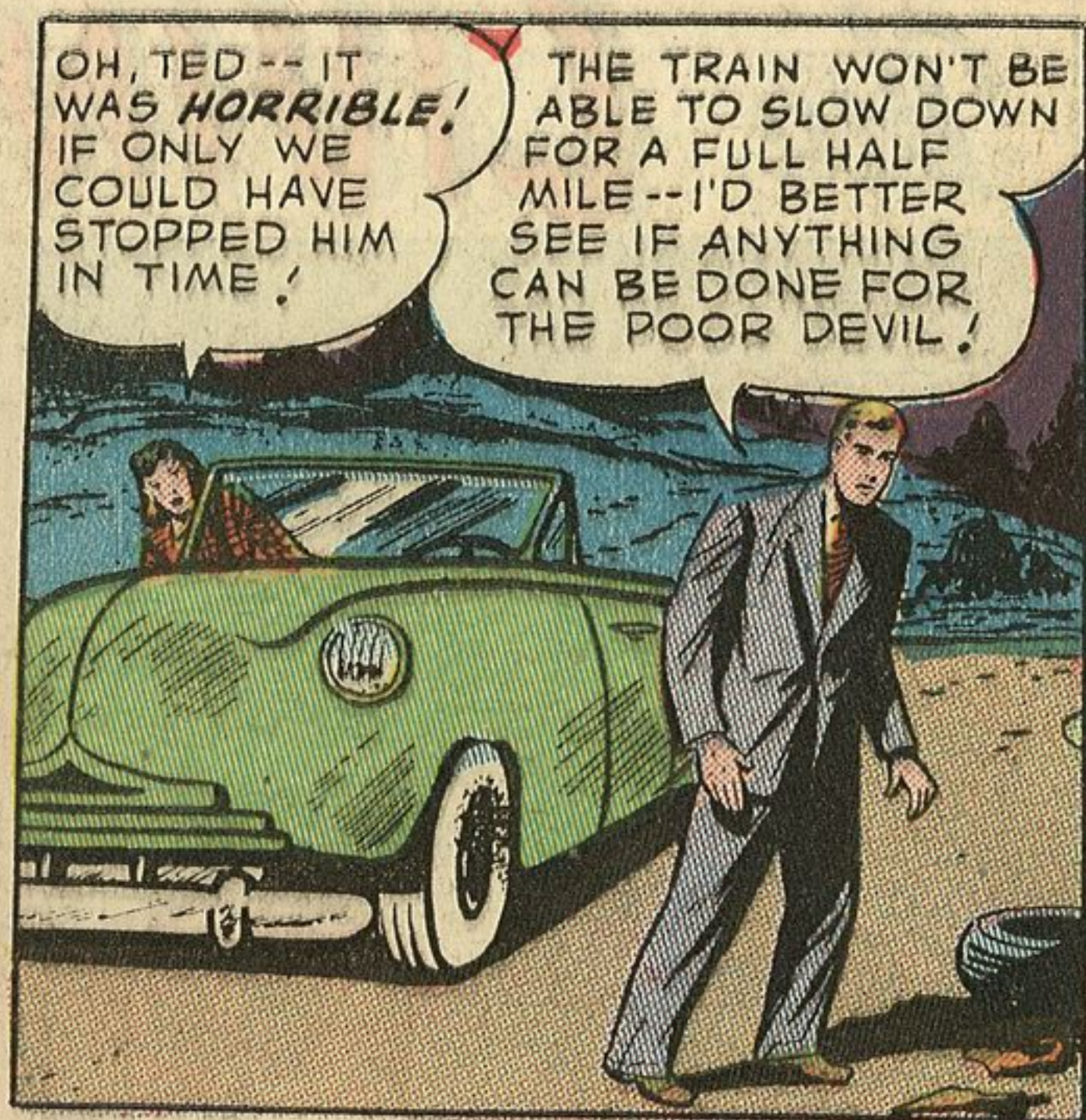
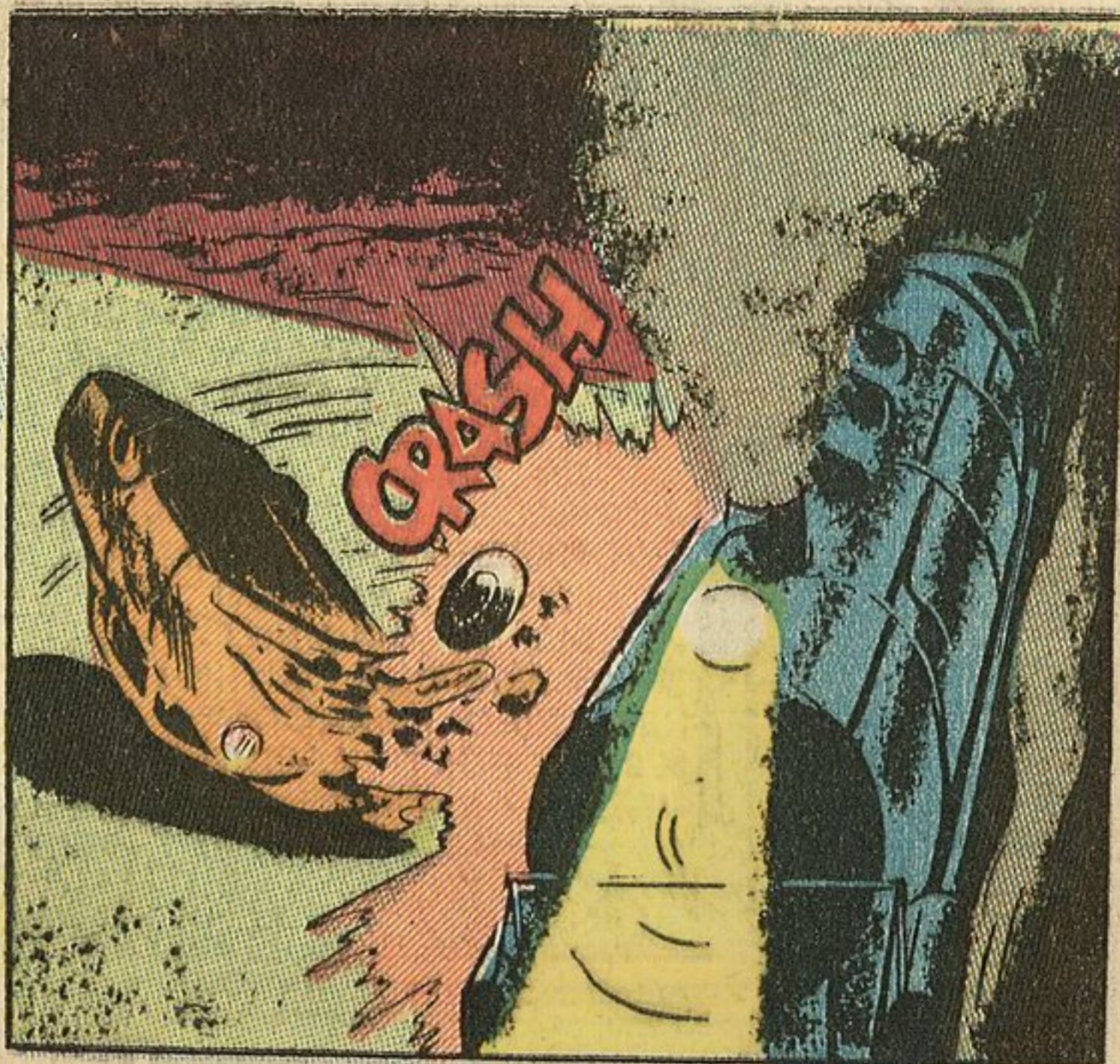
# The **LIVING HEAD**



**T**HERE ARE FIENDS PROWLING THE DARKNESS HUNGERING FOR HUMAN SOULS--THERE ARE FLAPPING CREATURES THAT CIRCLE THE CLOUDY MOON ON A VAMPIRE'S QUEST FOR BLOOD! BUT THERE ARE OTHER **NAMELESS** THINGS BENT ON A MIDNIGHT MISSION TOO GRISLY TO IMAGINE! YES, **THIS** WAS ONE OF THEM--THE UNBURIED HORROR THAT CREPT FORTH AS THE **LIVING HEAD!**

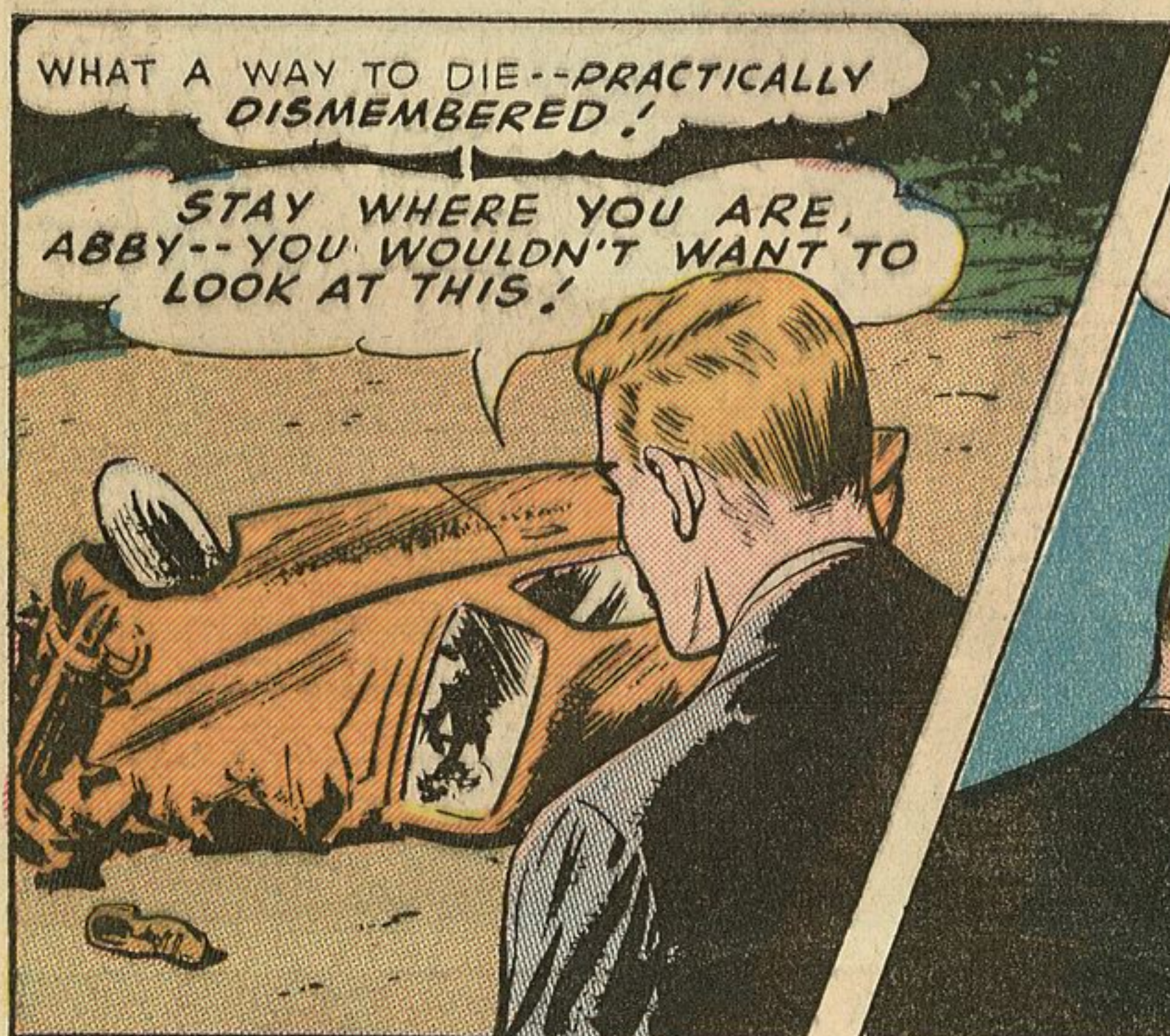






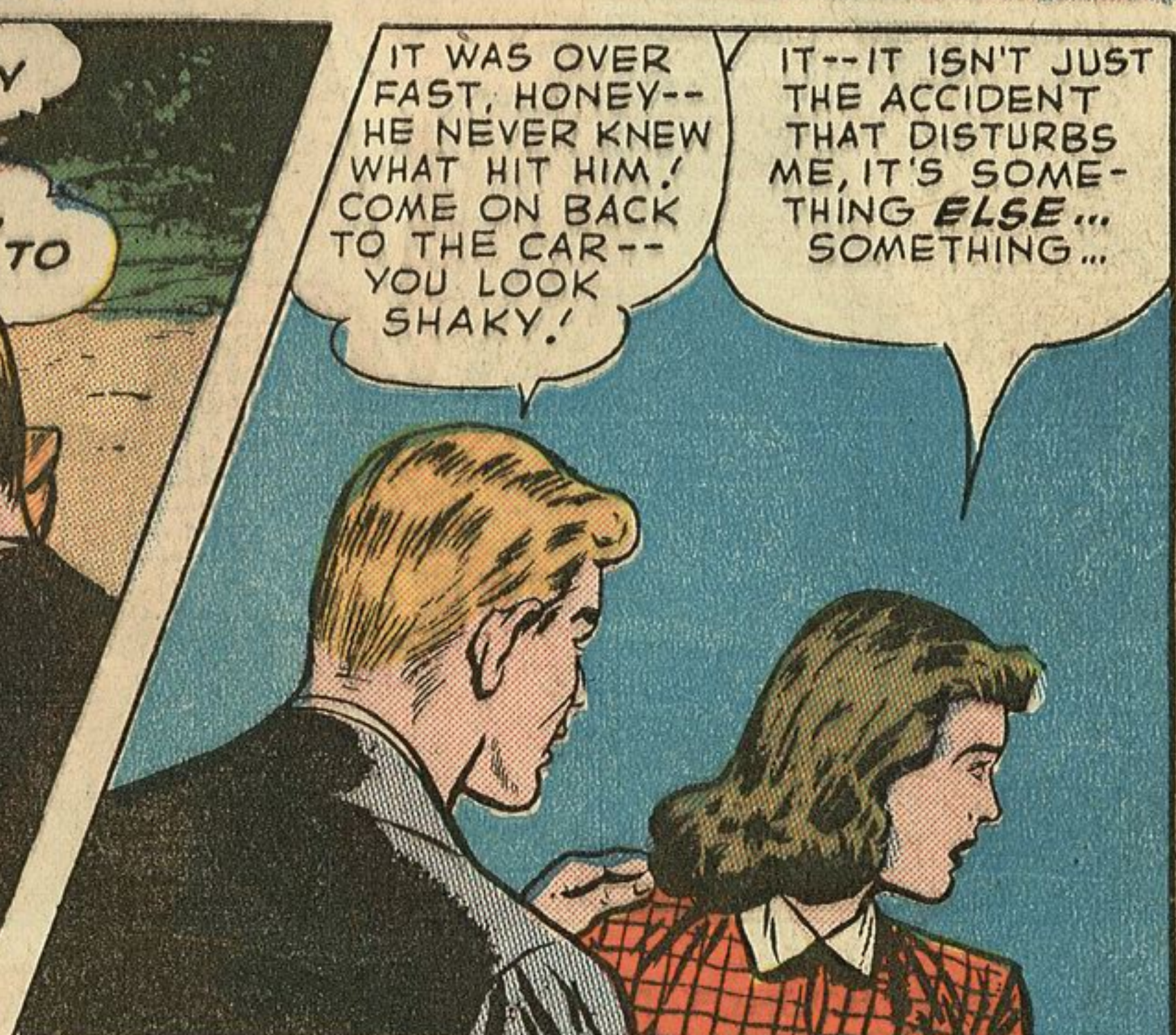
OH, TED -- IT WAS **HORRIBLE!** IF ONLY WE COULD HAVE STOPPED HIM IN TIME!

THE TRAIN WON'T BE ABLE TO SLOW DOWN FOR A FULL HALF MILE -- I'D BETTER SEE IF ANYTHING CAN BE DONE FOR THE POOR DEVIL!



WHAT A WAY TO DIE -- **PRACTICALLY DISMEMBERED!**

STAY WHERE YOU ARE, ABBY -- YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO LOOK AT THIS!

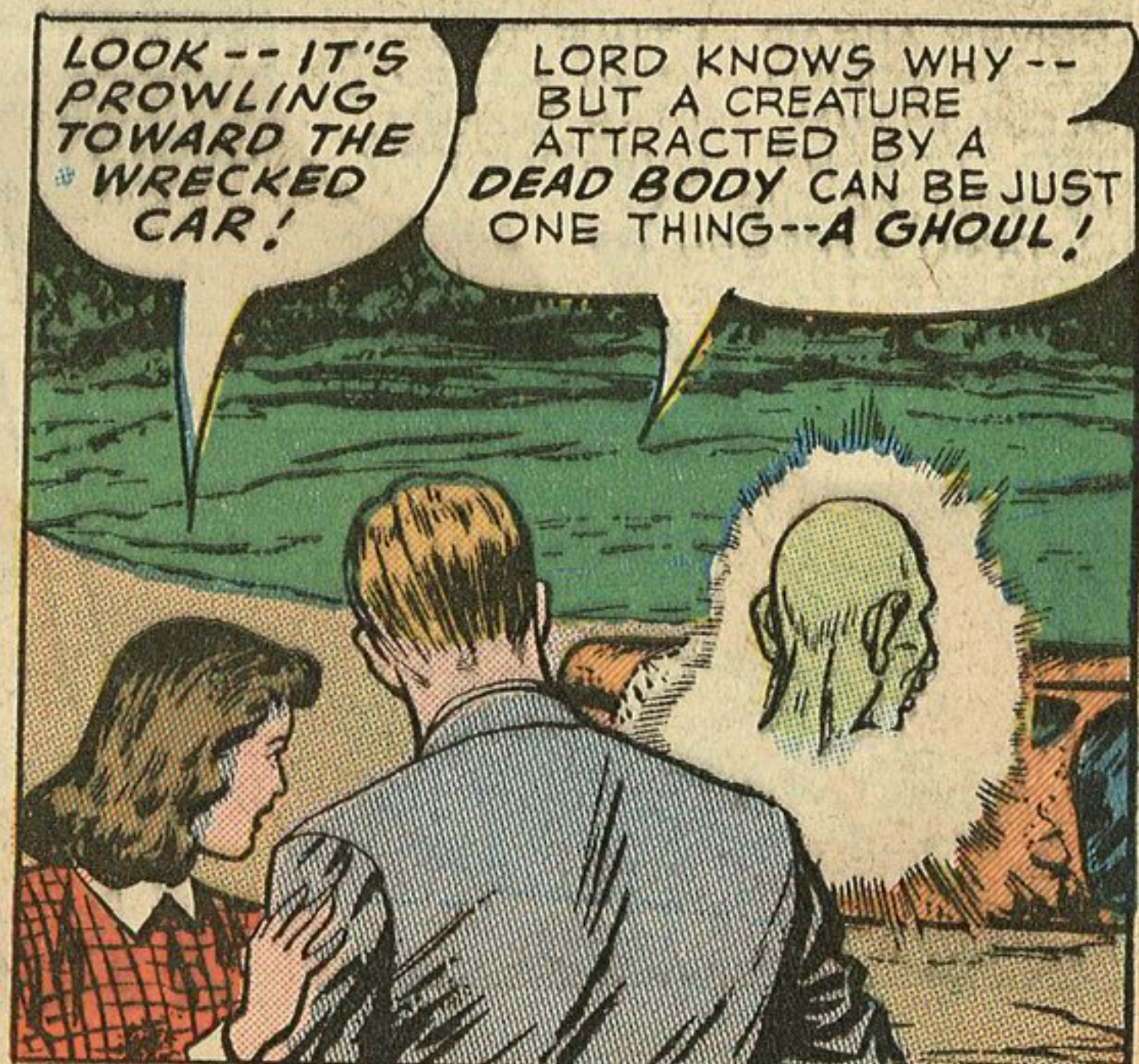
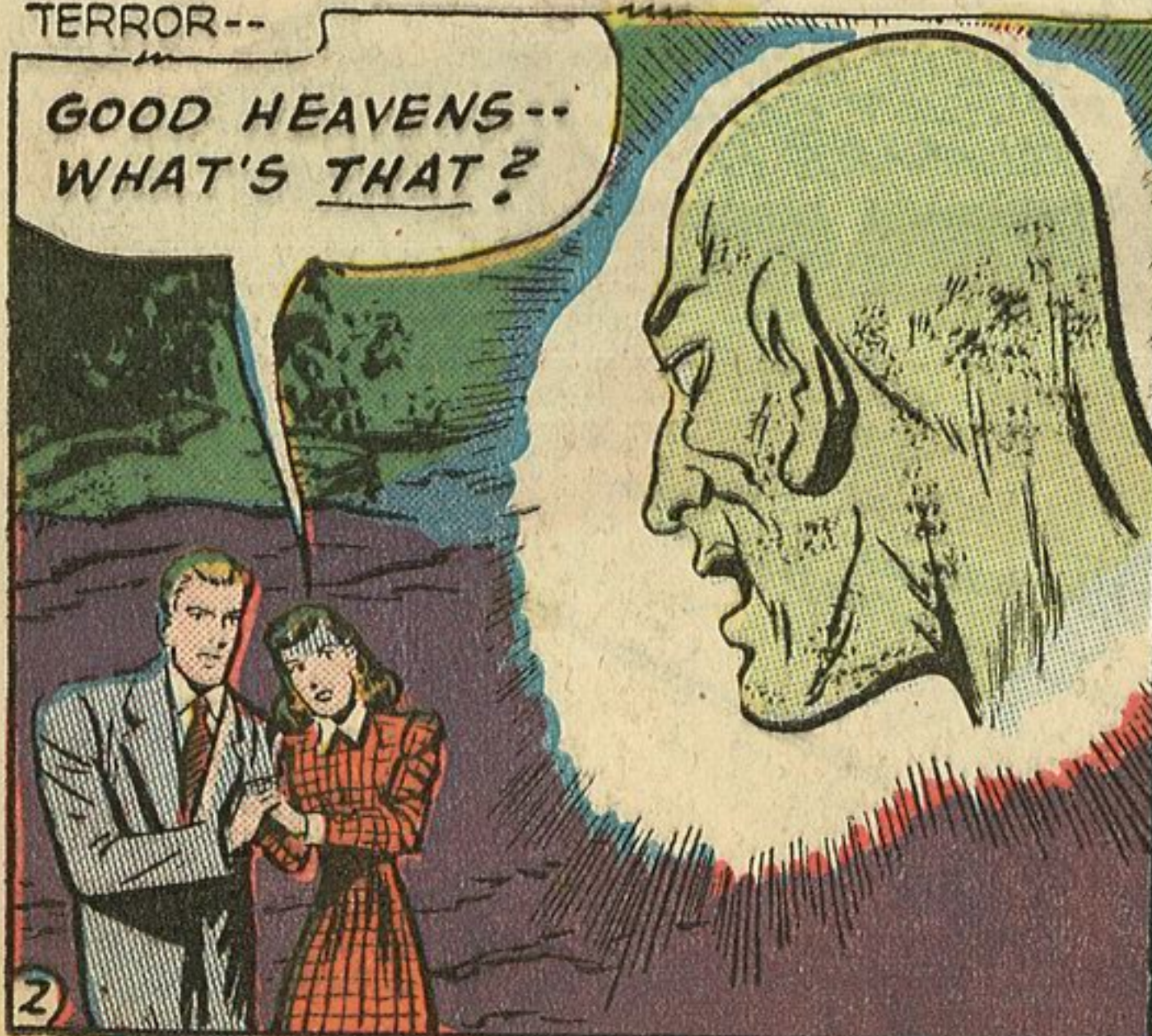


IT WAS OVER FAST, HONEY -- HE NEVER KNEW WHAT HIT HIM! COME ON BACK TO THE CAR -- YOU LOOK SHAKY!

IT -- IT ISN'T JUST THE ACCIDENT THAT DISTURBS ME, IT'S SOMETHING **ELSE** ... SOMETHING ...

OUT OF THE DARKNESS THAT HELD A NAMELESS TERROR --

GOOD HEAVENS -- WHAT'S THAT?



LOOK -- IT'S **PROWLING TOWARD THE WRECKED CAR!**

LORD KNOWS WHY -- BUT A CREATURE ATTRACTED BY A **DEAD BODY** CAN BE JUST ONE THING -- A **GHOUL!**



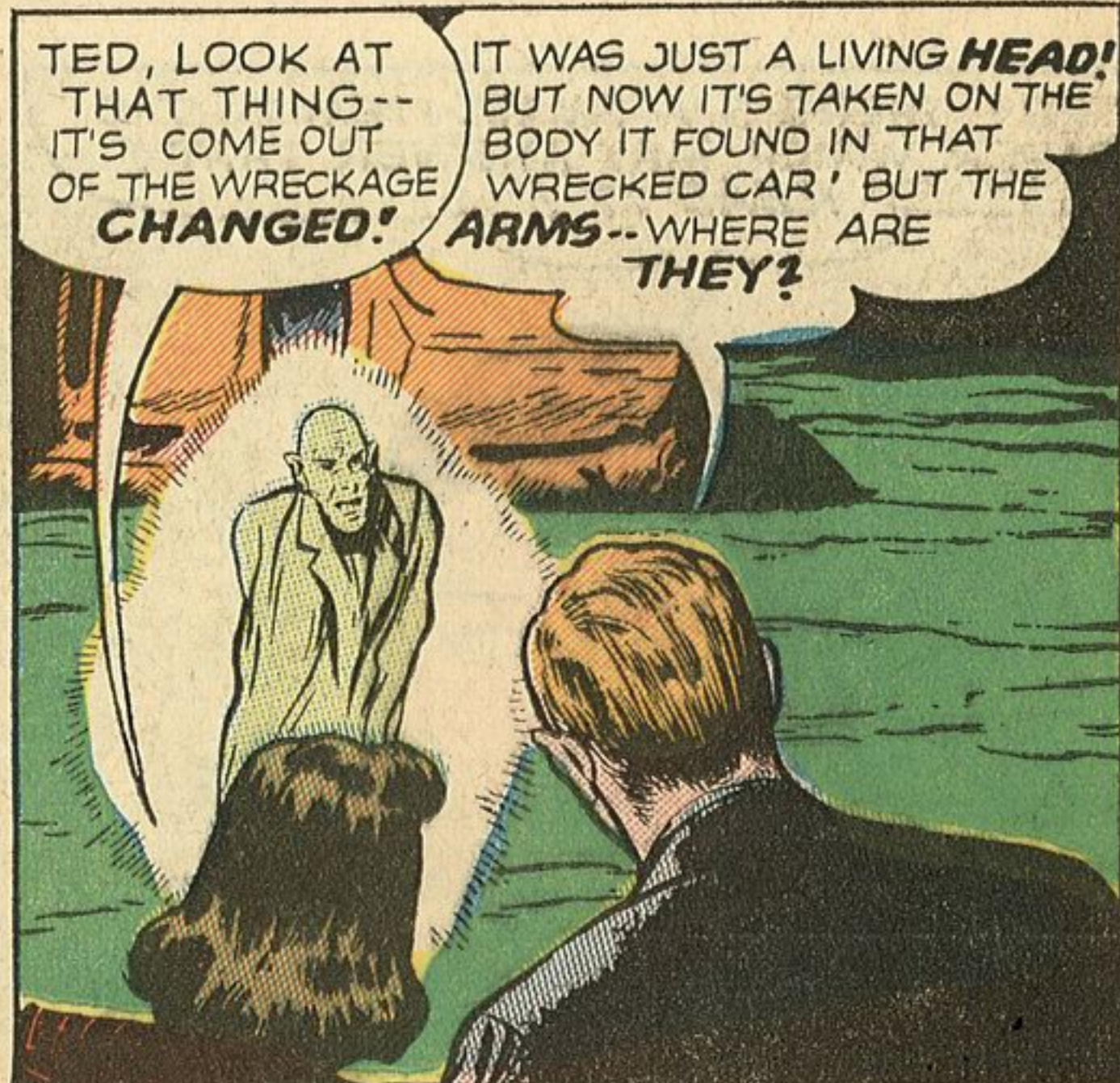
FOR A SECOND, THE HIDEOUS HEAD HOVERS OVER THE TWISTED MASS--AND THEN--

HA-HA! WITHIN THE WRECKAGE, IT WAITS FOR ME--THE BODY I'VE CRAVED SO LONG!



TED, LOOK AT THAT THING-- IT'S COME OUT OF THE WRECKAGE **CHANGED!**

IT WAS JUST A LIVING **HEAD!** BUT NOW IT'S TAKEN ON THE BODY IT FOUND IN THAT WRECKED CAR! BUT THE **ARMS**--WHERE ARE THEY?



THE AWFUL FIGURE HEARD--ANSWERED--WITH EYES GLARING EERILY--

YES, THE **ARMS!** ANOTHER MIDNIGHT AND I'LL FIND THEM! THEN I'LL BE COMPLETE AGAIN--**READY TO PREY ON HUMANKIND ONCE MORE!**



AS THE GRISLY FORM STALKS OFF INTO THE GLOOM--

TED--THE TRAIN IS BACKING UP! DO WE HAVE TO--STAY **HERE?**

NOT ON YOUR LIFE! WE'RE **WITNESSES**--AND I DON'T WANT TO BE CONSIDERED COMPLETELY BATS WHEN THEY START ASKING QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT WE SAW!

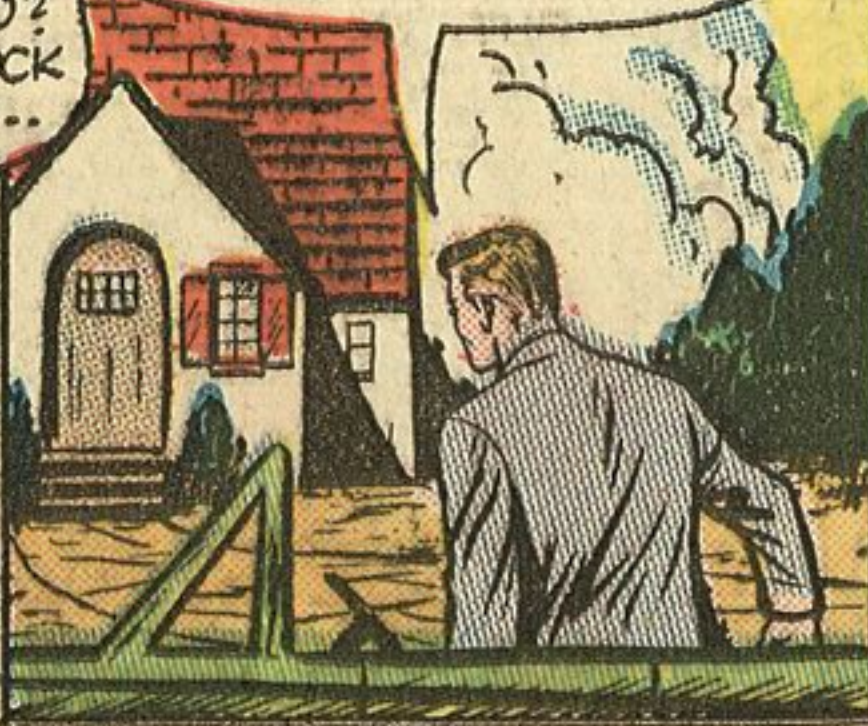
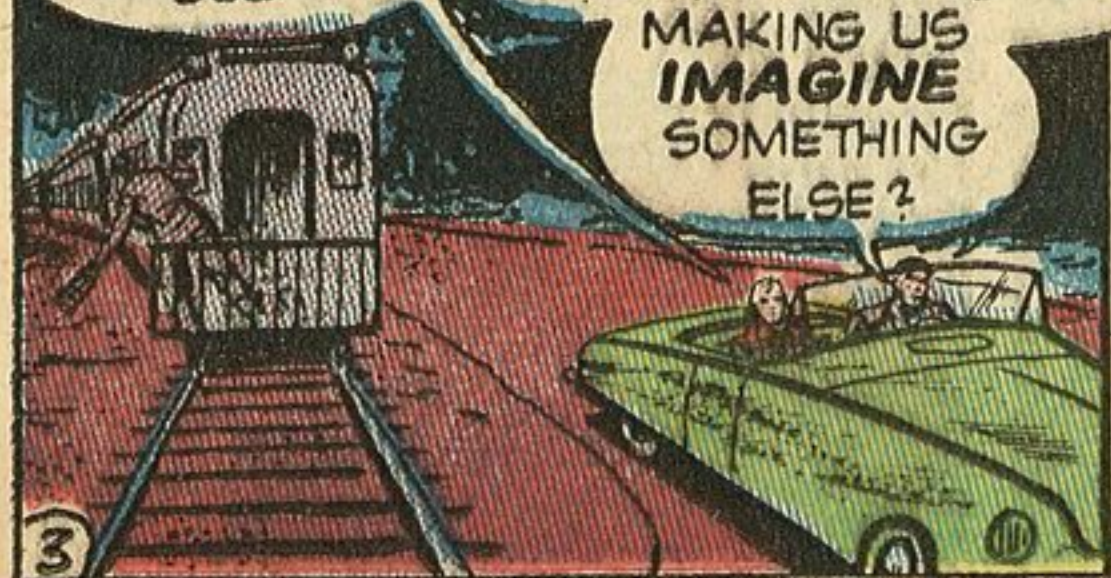


NEXT DAY--AT ABBY'S HOME--

BETTER TRY TO CONVINCE HER THE WHOLE THING WAS IMAGINATION, BEFORE SHE HAS A NERVOUS BREAKDOWN! BUT I HOPE SHE DIDN'T TUNE IN ON THIS MORNING'S NEWS! THE BROADCAST SAID THE MAN'S BODY WAS MISSING FROM THE WRECKAGE--AND ALL THEY FOUND WERE HIS **ARMS**, SCATTERED ALONG THE TRACKS!

I--I SEEM TO HAVE SENSED THE PRESENCE OF SOMETHING **ELSE** WATCHING THAT GHOUL, TED--SOMETHING NEAR US THAT WE COULDN'T SEE---

FUNNY, BUT I HAD THE SAME FEELING! COULD IT HAVE BEEN THE **SPIRIT** OF THE MAN WHO WAS KILLED? OR WAS IT JUST THE SHOCK OF WHAT WE **DID** SEE--MAKING US **IMAGINE** SOMETHING **ELSE?**



I'M GLAD YOU CAME, DARLING--BECAUSE THERE IS SOMETHING I CAN'T GET OFF MY MIND! YOU CALLED THAT GHOULISH THING LAST NIGHT A **LIVING HEAD**--AND I **WONDER**--COULD IT HAVE LIVED FOR SEVERAL HUNDRED YEARS?

LOOK, ABBY--WHY GIVE IT ANOTHER THOUGHT? A FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT CAN SHOCK PEOPLE INTO **ALL KINDS** OF WILD HALLUCINATIONS--BUT BE SENSIBLE--**WHERE WOULD SUCH A HEAD EVER HAVE COME FROM?**





TED--THERE'S A SMALL ITEM IN THE PAPER WHICH MAY ANSWER THAT!  
**READ IT!**



LET'S SEE...A COLONIAL CEMETERY HAS BEEN EXCAVATED FOR A BUILDING SITE--AND ALL THE REMAINS WERE CAREFULLY GATHERED TOGETHER FOR REBURIAL! ONE OF THE GRAVES CONTAINED NOTHING BUT A WELL-PRESERVED HEAD--**WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE VANISHED SOME-TIME DURING THE NIGHT!**

UH-HUH--AND THAT CEMETERY WAS **ANCIENT!** WHY WAS IT A **HEAD** INSTEAD OF AN OLD SKULL, THEN--**UNLESS THAT HEAD HAD REMAINED ALIVE THROUGH THE CENTURIES!**



NO--THIS IS MORE THAN OUR IMAGINATIONS RUNNING RIOT! A HEAD BURIED **WITHOUT** A BODY--A HEAD PROWLING THROUGH THE DARKNESS **SEEKING** A BODY--**THERE'S SOME CONNECTION!**

I WAS HOPING YOU'D FORGET ABOUT THE WHOLE THING, ABBY--BUT I'M AFRAID YOU'RE RIGHT! SUPPOSE WE CHECK THE EARLY RECORDS AT CITY HALL--AND SEE WHAT WE CAN LEARN ABOUT THAT OLD CEMETERY!

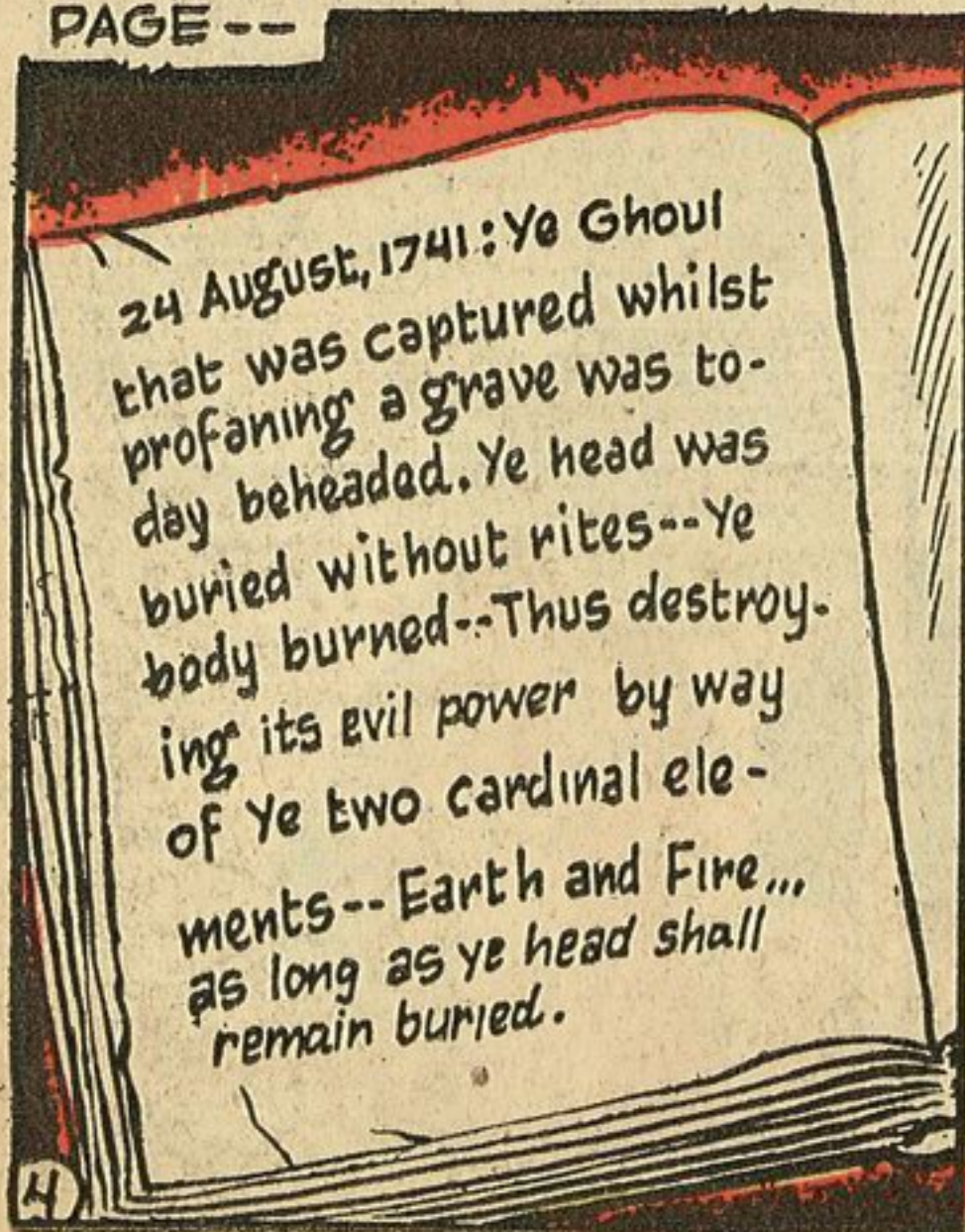


**SOON AFTERWARD--**  
ACCORDING TO THE PAPERS, THERE WERE ONLY SIXTY GRAVES IN THE CEMETERY! WE'VE ALREADY TRACED FORTY-FIVE OF THE BURIALS--**SO WE MUST BE GETTING CLOSE!**

YEP--MUCH CLOSER THAN I THOUGHT WE EVER **WOULD** BE! **TAKE A LOOK AT THIS!**



LIKE AN ECHO OF ANCIENT TERROR FROM THE YELLOWED PAGE--



24 August, 1741: Ye Ghoul that was captured whilst profaning a grave was to-day beheaded. Ye head was buried without rites--Ye body burned--Thus destroying its evil power by way of Ye two cardinal elements--Earth and Fire... as long as ye head shall remain buried.

A **GHOUL!** ITS EVIL POWER **SHOULD** HAVE BEEN DESTROYED WHEN THE HEAD WAS BURIED OVER TWO CENTURIES AGO--BUT NOW IT'S BEEN **RE-LEASED!**

YES, RELEASED--TO SPREAD **TERROR!** BUT IT CAN'T DO THAT UNTIL IT FINDS THE ARMS NECESSARY TO COMPLETE ITS BODY! IT'LL BE HUNTING THEM TONIGHT SOME-PLACE--**BUT WHERE?**



THAT NIGHT--IT'S NEARLY 11:30--AND IT GIVES ME THE CREEPS TO REALIZE THAT BY **MIDNIGHT**, THAT HIDEOUS CREATURE WILL BE ON THE PROWL AGAIN!

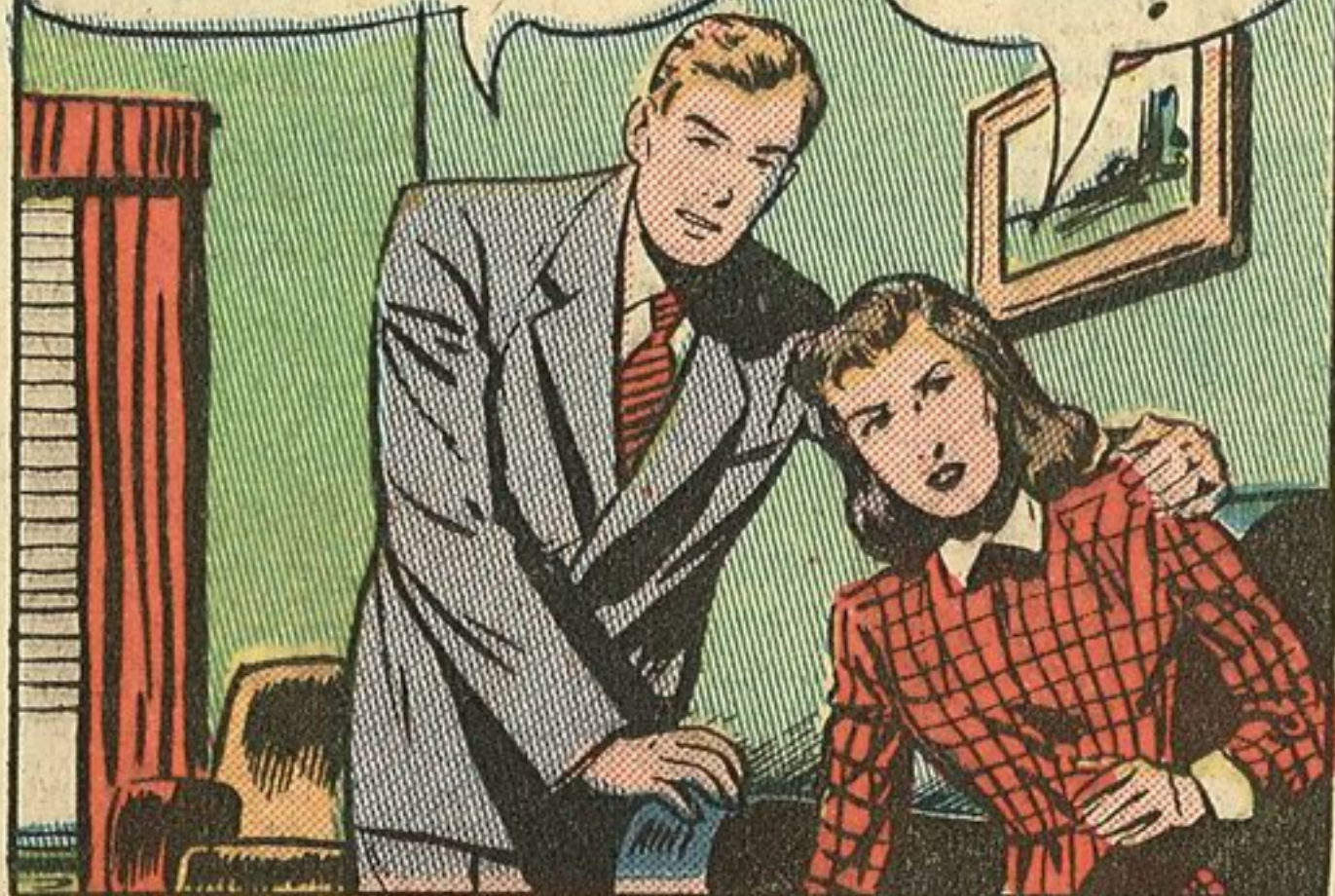
THAT'S WHAT IT THREATENED--AND THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT! THE POLICE WOULD CALL US CRAZY IF WE TOLD THEM THAT A LIVING HEAD IS ASSEMBLING A NEW BODY FOR ITSELF--TO PREY ON THE HUMAN RACE! I'M AFRAID WE'RE **LICKED!**



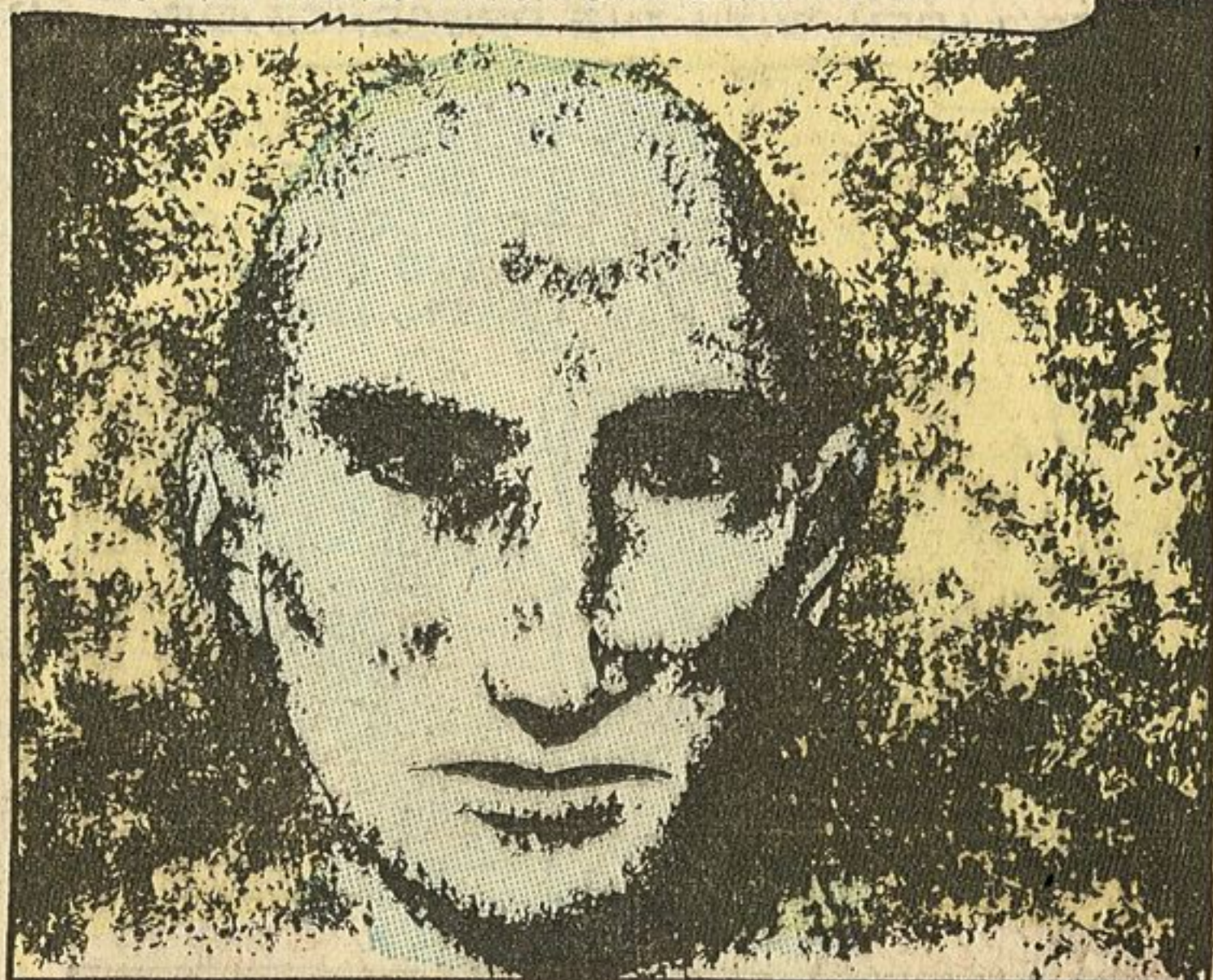


AND I--I THOUGHT AT FIRST WE'D BE ABLE TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT THAT CREEP--BUT WE MIGHT AS WELL DRIVE ITS HORROR FROM OUR MINDS!

IT'S TOO LATE FOR THAT! I CAN SEE SOMETHING, TED--  
**DRIFTING THROUGH THE DOORWAY!**



**S**OMETHING--SOMETHING FROM SOME STRANGE AND DISTANT WORLD WHICH GATHERED FORM--



THANK HEAVENS IT'S NOT THAT AWFUL GHOUL-- BUT IT'S A **GHOST** OF **SOME** KIND! WHAT--WHAT BROUGHT IT **HERE?**

DON'T LOSE YOUR NERVE! IT DOESN'T LOOK **EVIL**-- AND FOR SOME REASON --**IT ISN'T COMING CLOSER!**



AS THE PHANTOM TURNS SLOWLY--

ABBY--THAT THING'S **WAITING** FOR US! IT--IT'S ALMOST AS IF IT'S TRYING TO **LEAD** US SOMEWHERE-- SOMEWHERE **IMPORTANT!**-- **COME ON!**

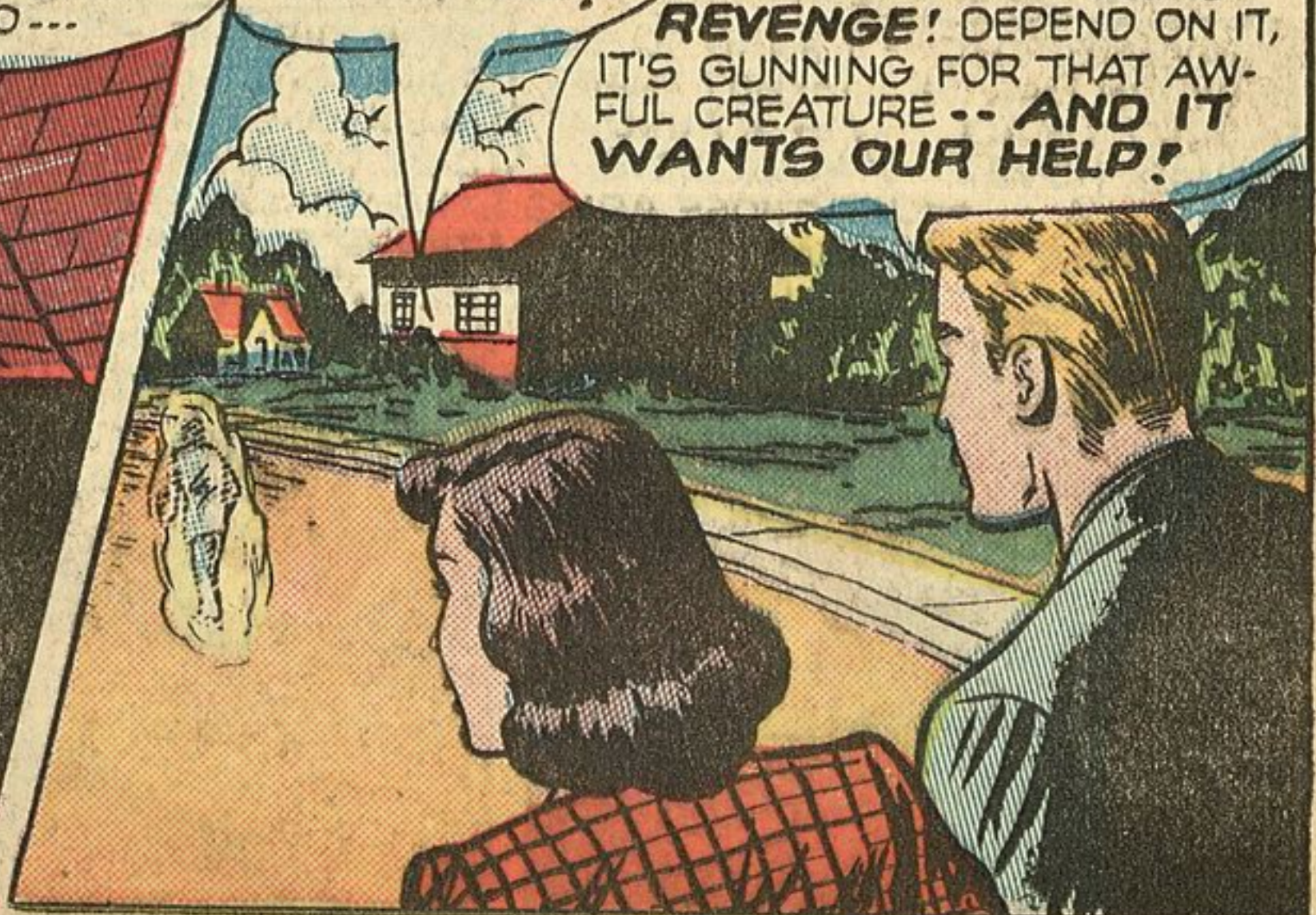


YOU MEAN WE'RE GOING TO **FOLLOW** IT? BUT--WE DON'T KNOW WHO IT IS, WHAT IT IS---

THINK BACK, HONEY! REMEMBER THE **INVISIBLE PRESENCE** YOU SENSED AT THE SCENE OF THE ACCIDENT! IT KNEW THAT **WE** SAW THE GHOUL, TOO---

YOU MEAN--THE SPIRIT OF THE MAN WHO WAS KILLED BY THE TRAIN, TED?

**YES-- IT COULD ONLY BE HE!** THE RESTLESS SPIRIT WHOM THE GHOUL ROBBED OF HIS BODY--THE SPIRIT WHO NOW SEEKS **REVENGE!** DEPEND ON IT, IT'S GUNNING FOR THAT AWFUL CREATURE -- **AND IT WANTS OUR HELP!**

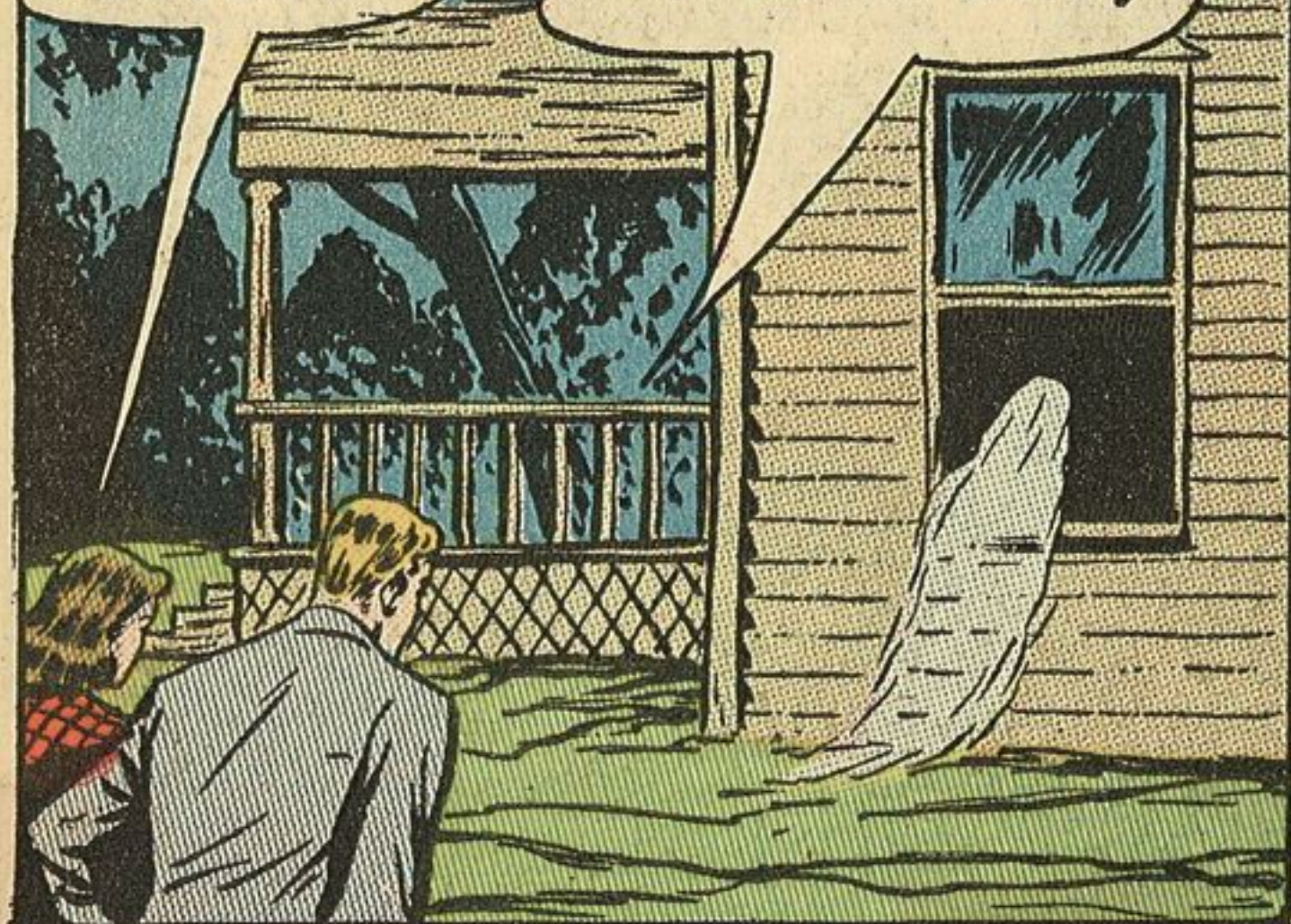




**A** HALF-HOUR LATER--AT A DARKENED HOUSE LADEN WITH THE PRESENCE OF DEATH--

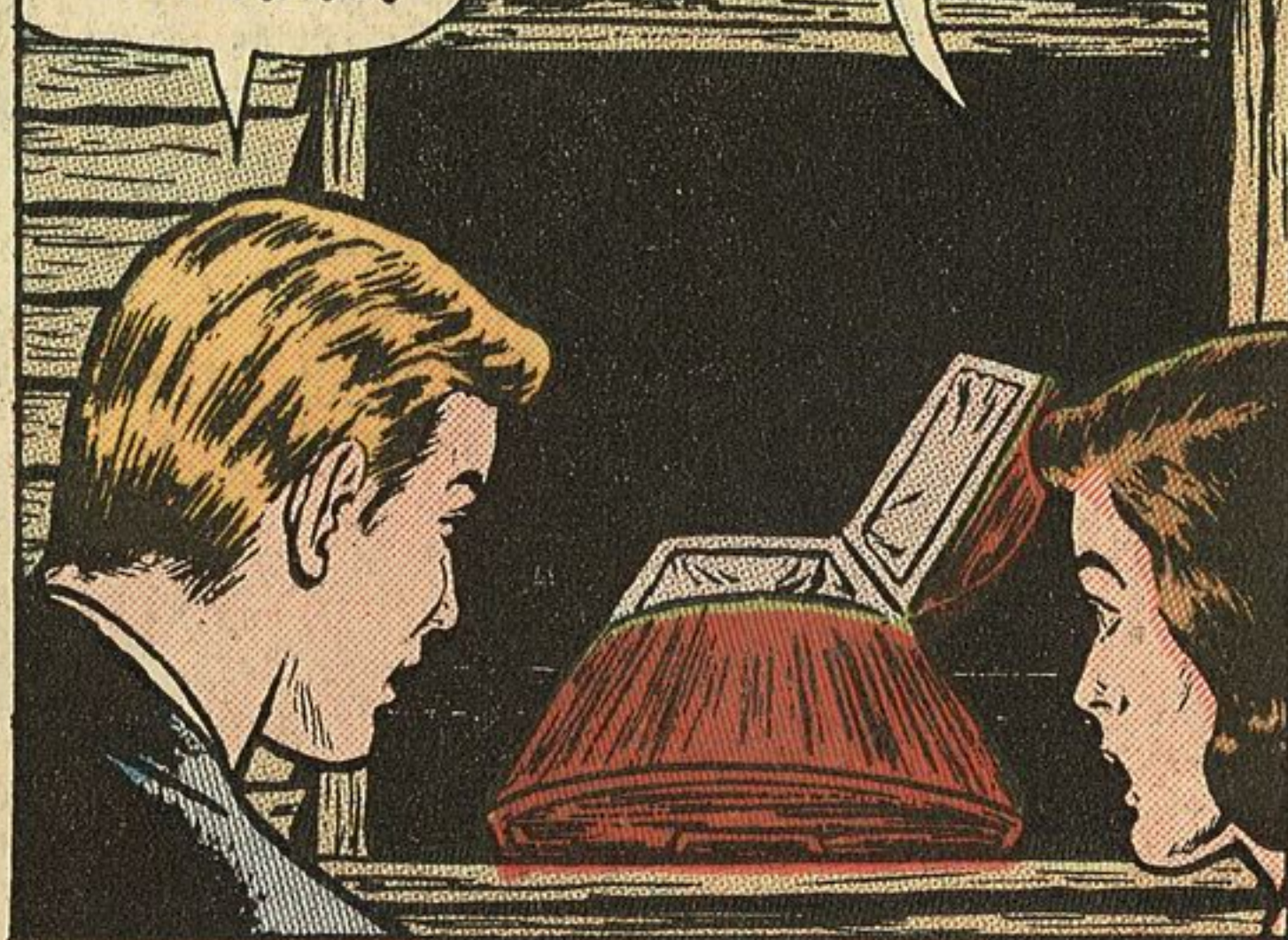
TED--WATCH! THE PHANTOM'S STARTING TO FADE! IT'S DISAPPEARING!

THIS IS THE PLACE IT WANTED US TO COME TO! LET'S TAKE A LOOK INSIDE--AND SEE IF WE CAN LEARN WHY!



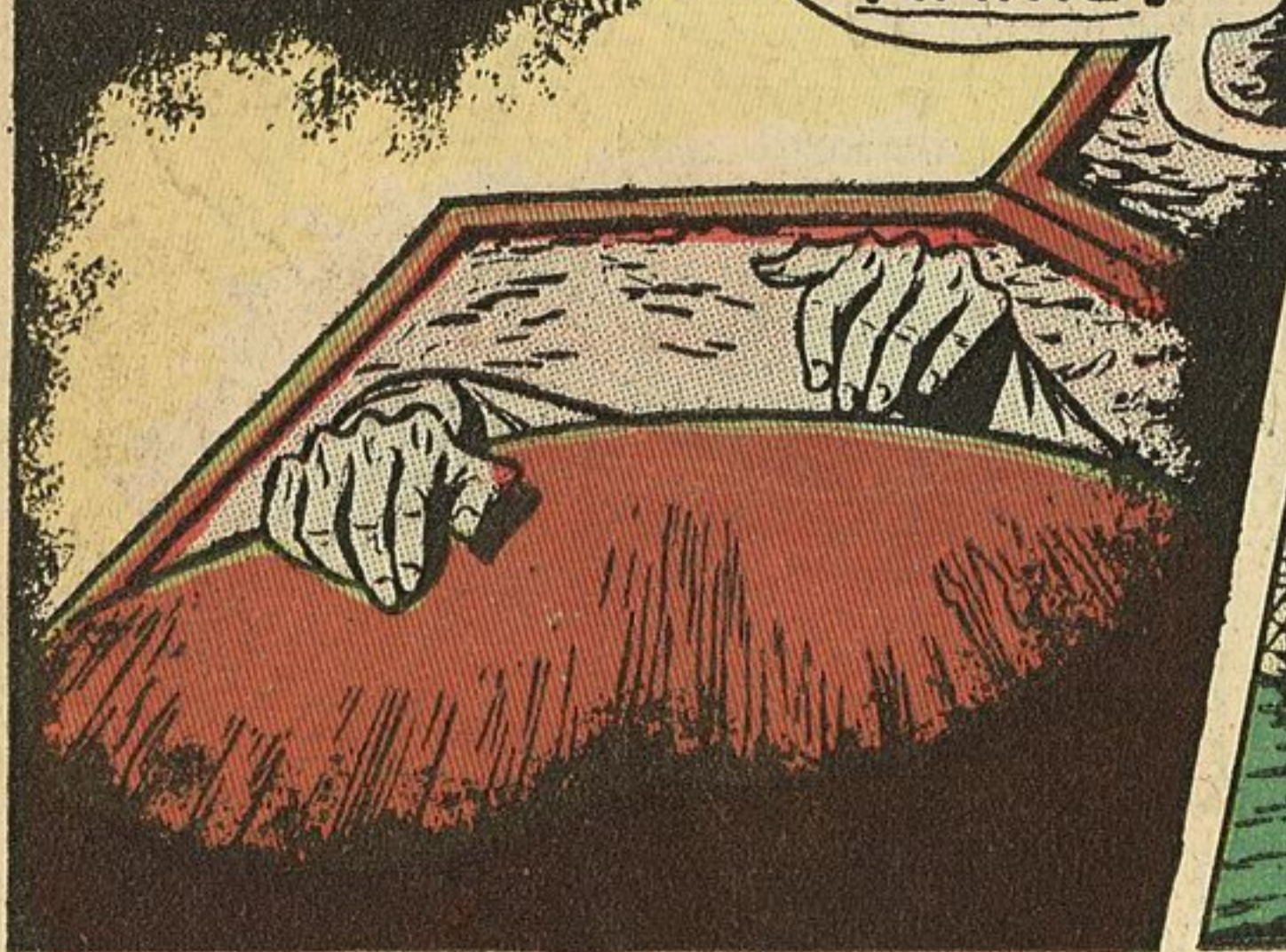
SO THAT'S IT!.. DON'T YOU GET IT, ABBY? IT'S HIS COFFIN, CONTAINING ALL THAT THE GHOUL LEFT HIM OF HIS MORTAL BODY! A HEAD-- AND A PAIR OF ARMS!

BUT WHY HAVE WE BEEN BROUGHT HERE--WHAT CAN WE DO? WE--TED! I SEEM TO SENSE A-- **MOVEMENT** IN THE COFFIN!



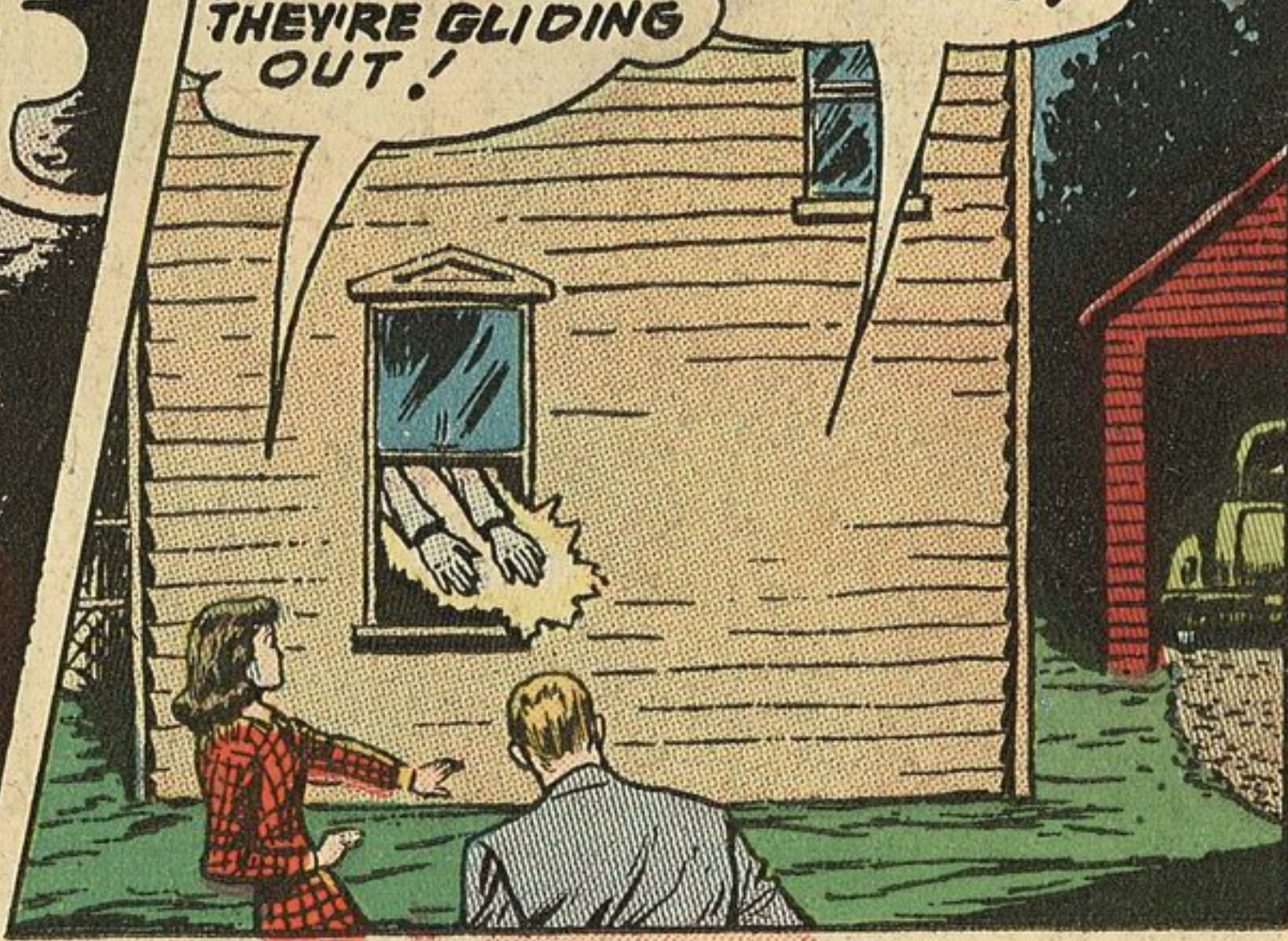
SLOWLY, SINUOUSLY-- EMERGING FROM THE CHEST OF DEATH--

GOOD LORD-- THEY'RE ARMS!



OHH! THOSE AWFUL CLUTCHING THINGS--LOOK-- THEY'RE GLIDING OUT!

DON'T GET PANICKY-- THERE'S NO INDICATION THEY'RE GOING TO GRAB US!



NO-- THESE ARMS HAD A MISSION--

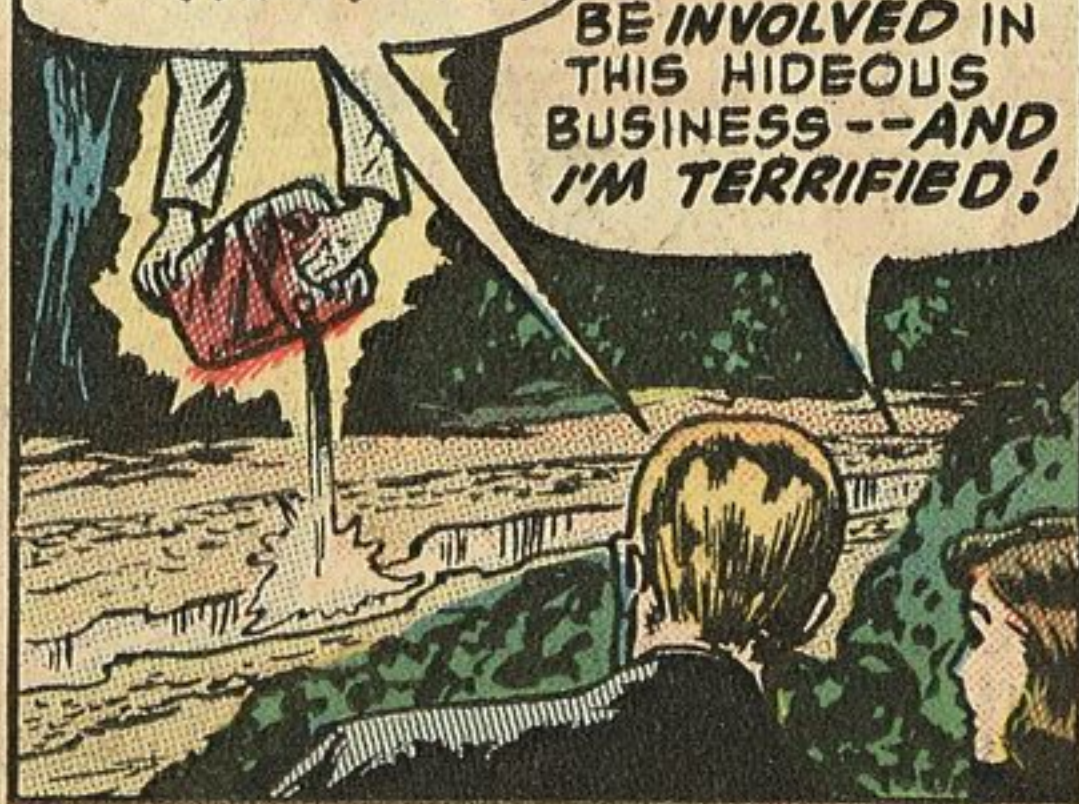
HEAVENS, TED-- WHY ON EARTH WOULD DEAD ARMS HOVER INTO A GARAGE?

HARD TO SAY --BUT THERE IS A MIND AT WORK HERE-- AND THOSE ARMS ARE MOTIVATED BY A DEFINITE PURPOSE!

A MOMENT LATER--MOVING BACK AND FORTH BEFORE THE SILENT HOUSE--

NOW THEY'RE POURING GASOLINE ALL ALONG THE DIRT DRIVEWAY-- AND YOU CAN BET THERE'S A REASON FOR THAT, TOO!

THAT'S JUST WHAT I'M AFRAID OF! TED, WE WEREN'T BROUGHT HERE JUST TO WATCH SOMETHING--WE ARE GOING TO BE INVOLVED IN THIS HIDEOUS BUSINESS--AND I'M TERRIFIED!



MAYBE YOU'RE RIGHT... THE ARMS SEEM TO HAVE DONE JUST SO MUCH-- AND NOW SUDDENLY-- THEY'RE RETURNING TO THE COFFIN!

IT MAY SEEM SUDDEN, BUT THE TIMING'S JUST RIGHT --IT'S NEARLY MIDNIGHT!







CAN'T YOU GUESS WHAT IT MEANS, TED? **THAT GHOUL WILL BE HERE ANY MINUTE--** IN SEARCH OF THE MISSING ARMS IT NEEDS TO COMPLETE ITS BODY!

NOW I KNOW WHY WE WERE BROUGHT HERE-- TO PROVIDE THE **HUMAN FACTOR** THAT CAN LEAD TO THAT FIEND'S DESTRUCTION! REMEMBER ITS POWER WAS ONCE DESTROYED BY THE ELEMENTS OF **EARTH AND FIRE!** AND NOW EVERYTHING'S SET FOR **US** TO USE THE **SAME METHOD!**



**F**OR A SECOND, THE NIGHT SEEMS TO HOLD ITS BREATH AT THE FINAL STROKE OF TWELVE--AND OUT OF THE BLACK, EERIE GLOOM--

**THERE IT!** KEEP HIDDEN, ABBY! COMES! AND IF IT SEES US--I SHUDDER! I'LL HAVE TO REVEAL MYSELF--JUST LONG ENOUGH TO SHOW THAT FIEND WHAT IT'S UP AGAINST!



**HAA!** YOU HAVE INTRUDED A **SECOND TIME!** IT PROVES YOU KNOW WHAT I PLAN-- **AND IT SPELLS DEATH!**

YES-- FOR **YOU!** I'VE LIT THIS BRANCH-- **AND THERE'S GASOLINE AT YOUR FEET!**



IN A **SCARLET SHEET OF FLAME--**

IS **THIS** WHAT YOU HOPE TO THREATEN ME WITH--**FIRE?** STEP BY STEP, I'M COMING TOWARD YOU --I WILL DESTROY YOU -- **YOUR ARMS** WILL BE THE ONES THAT MAKE MY BODY WHOLE TONIGHT!

YOU'RE BEGINNING TO STAGGER! SURE, YOU'RE ADVANCING STEP BY STEP-- **OVER A DIRT ROAD SWEEPED BY FLAMES! EARTH--AND FIRE!**



IN THE NEXT SECOND--AS A **HIDEOUS WAIL** ASCENDS IN A **BILLOW OF SMOKE--**

**AAAGH!**

DON'T BE FRIGHTENED, ABBY! THOSE GHOSTLY ARMS KNEW JUST THE METHOD TO USE AGAINST THAT MONSTER-- **AND IT WORKED!**



AS THE SINKING FLAMES CAST SHADOWS NO LONGER TINGED WITH DREAD--

DARLING--ARE YOU SURE THERE ISN'T **SOMETHING** LEFT OF THE GHOUL THAT WILL GIVE HIM **ANOTHER** RELEASE FROM DEATH?

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT **THAT--** BECAUSE **THIS** TIME HIS HEAD HAS BEEN CONSUMED, TOO! THERE ISN'T A FRAGMENT OF THAT FIEND REMAINING-- ABLE TO STALK THE NIGHT SEEKING THE GRISLY MAKINGS FOR **ANOTHER BODY!**

The End



# CASTLE <sup>in</sup> CORNWALL

**A**T THE NORTHWEST tip of Cornwall, England stands the ancient and forbidding structure of Medwin Castle. Its ancient towers, overlooking the steep rock cliffs which face the sea, jut high into the eternally grey skies. For over three hundred years the castle has been uninhabited, except for two days during the Second World War when the United States Army tried unsuccessfully to use it as a recuperation center.

Yellowing records disclose that until 1621 Medwin Castle was the seat of the powerful feudal family from which it took its name. But in that year the elder Duke of Cornwall, Balfour Symons-Kent, was accused and convicted of vampirism. No one doubted the verdict of the court, for when the cellars of the castle were opened a macabre sight confronted the aghast constabulary. The cellars proved to be a vast network of torture chambers, and beneath the stone floors literally hundreds of corpses were found.

When Balfour Symons-Kent was burned at the stake he died screaming vengeance, and vowing to return from the grave to claim the castle as his own. Shortly thereafter a great fire gutted the structure from moat to towers, killing almost everyone within. Many people remembered the death vow of the vampire, but the rest merely scoffed.

The remaining members of the Medwin clan rebuilt the castle in the two following years, though an extraordinary number of fatal "accidents" to the workmen almost prevented the job. But no sooner was the castle used again than a series of ghastly murders occurred. Each morning for seven days a staring and bloodless Medwin corpse was found in one of the bedchambers... testifying clearly to the grisly work of a vampire.

In sheer terror the remainder of the family fled, as did the superstitious and terrified people of the surrounding country-

side. From that day to this, the whole area has been a vast and desolate moor.

During the Second World War, however, the United States Army tried to renovate the ancient castle so that it could be used as a convalescent center for G.I.'s. Naturally, none of the commanding officers paid the slightest attention to the ancient legends.

Soon after renovations began mysterious events took place. One night all the workmen swore that they had heard distinctly the flapping of immense wings, though all the bats in the castle had been driven off. A few nights later the bloodless body of a workman was found. Undaunted, the authorities went ahead with their plans.

In due time a batch of convalescent soldiers arrived. In the middle of their very first night there, everyone was abruptly awakened by a series of maniacal screams. The patients, who needed rest above all, trembled in the darkness...and heard *the flapping of wings!*

The next day the doctors met in solemn conclave. Vampire or no vampire, they decided, whatever it was that had caused the disturbance would have to be found before nightfall, because the convalescents could not afford to go another night without sleep. A frantic search through every chamber in the castle was made. Nothing was uncovered.

By late afternoon rumors of the presence of a vampire had circulated everywhere, and long after dark everyone remained awake, listening fearfully for any unusual sound. At exactly midnight a furious beating of wings filled the air, to be followed by insane peals of laughter. The next morning a doctor was found dead, with two tiny punctures in his throat.

Without further ado Medwin Castle was evacuated, and the dust began to settle again along the long and gloomy corridors. Today the structure stands much as it has for three hundred years, forlorn and deserted, its high towers looking down upon the long stretch of the sea.



# LURE OF THE SNAKE GODDESS

PAT.. LOOK!  
THE STATUE OF  
MAHRANA--  
WE'VE  
FOUND  
IT!

DON'T TOUCH IT, SAHIB!  
THAT STATUE CON-  
TAINS THE LIFE  
FORCE OF THE  
SNAKE GODDESS!  
TO OFFEND HER  
MEANS  
DEATH!

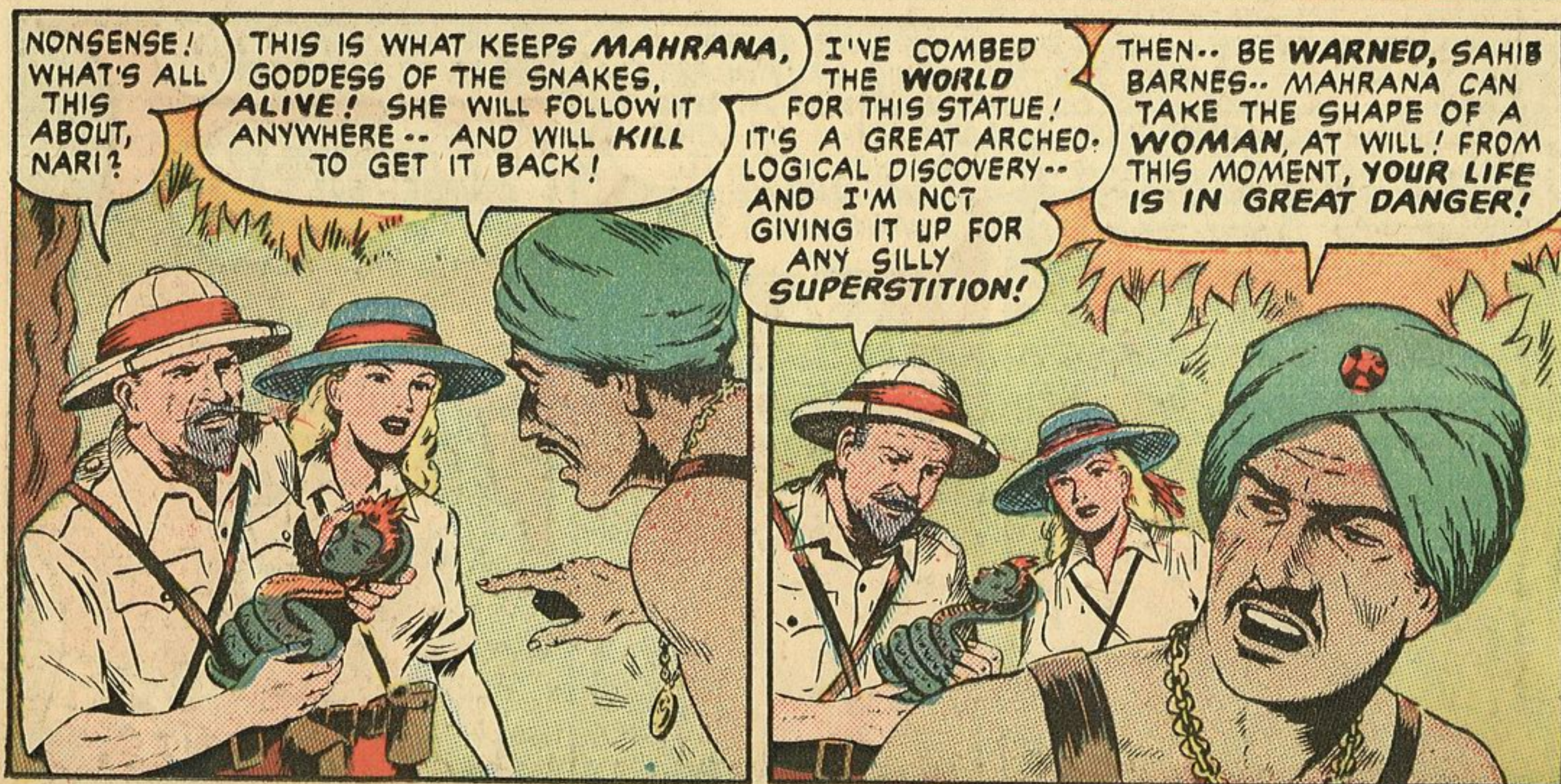
INDIA.. LAND OF MYSTERIOUS  
GREEN JUNGLES AND BLACK  
MAGIC! WHAT DO WE REALLY  
KNOW ABOUT IT.. ITS SECRET  
RITES AND STRANGE CUSTOMS?  
WHAT PERILS AWAIT THE UNWARY  
WHO DEFEY ITS TIMELESS HAUNTS?  
FOR THE HARROWING ANSWERS,  
LET'S TREK TO THE LAND OF THE  
SERPENT-WORSHIPPING URDUS--  
THERE TO SUCCUMB TO THE..  
LURE OF THE SNAKE  
GODDESS!

NONSENSE!  
WHAT'S ALL  
THIS  
ABOUT,  
NARI?

THIS IS WHAT KEEPS MAHRANA,  
GODDESS OF THE SNAKES,  
ALIVE! SHE WILL FOLLOW IT  
ANYWHERE.. AND WILL KILL  
TO GET IT BACK!

I'VE COMBED  
THE WORLD  
FOR THIS STATUE!  
IT'S A GREAT ARCHED.  
LOGICAL DISCOVERY..  
AND I'M NOT  
GIVING IT UP FOR  
ANY SILLY  
SUPERSTITION!

THEN.. BE WARNED, SAHIB  
BARNES.. MAHRANA CAN  
TAKE THE SHAPE OF A  
WOMAN, AT WILL! FROM  
THIS MOMENT, YOUR LIFE  
IS IN GREAT DANGER!





ITS MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, THE EXPEDITION STARTED HOMEWARD! THE ROUTE WAS TREACHEROUS, THE PERILS GREAT, AND AFTER MANY DAYS OF BACK-BREAKING TRAVEL--

THEN, AS IF DIRECTED BY A HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, THE DEADLY SERPENTS ATTACKED!

STOP! OUR PATH IS BLOCKED-- BY SNAKES-- HUNDREDS OF THEM!

THEY HAVE BEEN SENT BY THE SNAKE GODDESS, SAHIB! GIVE BACK THE STATUE-- QUICKLY!

NO! WE'LL FIGHT IT OUT!



AMID THE CONFUSION--

MY SON! I-- I CAN'T REACH HIM IN TIME!

FATHER! HELP!

GOOD SHOT, PAT!

BRAHMA BE THANKED-- HE IS SAVED!



AFTERWARD, WHEN THE GUNS OF THE EXPEDITION PROVED TOO MUCH FOR THE SLIMY FOE--

YOU HAVE SAVED MY SON'S LIFE! IN RETURN, TAKE THIS MAGIC AMULET-- AS LONG AS YOU WEAR IT, NO SNAKE MAY HARM YOU!

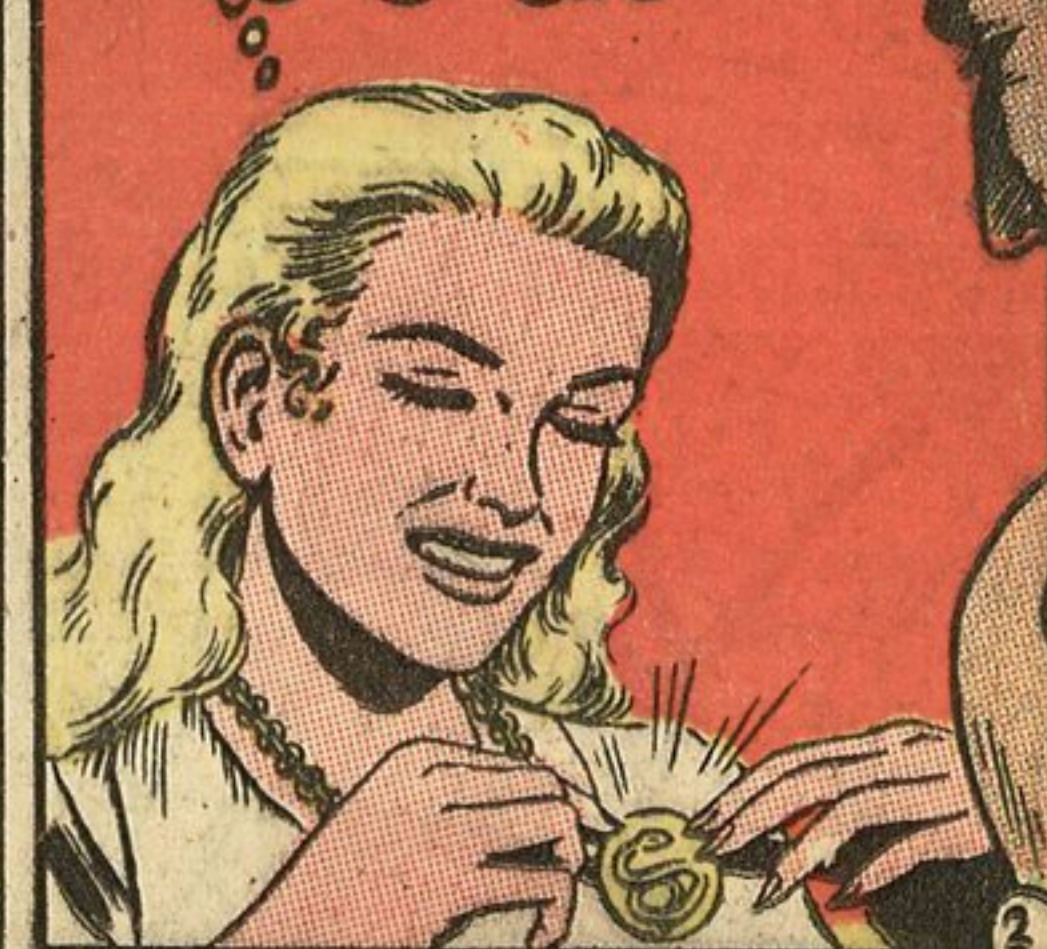
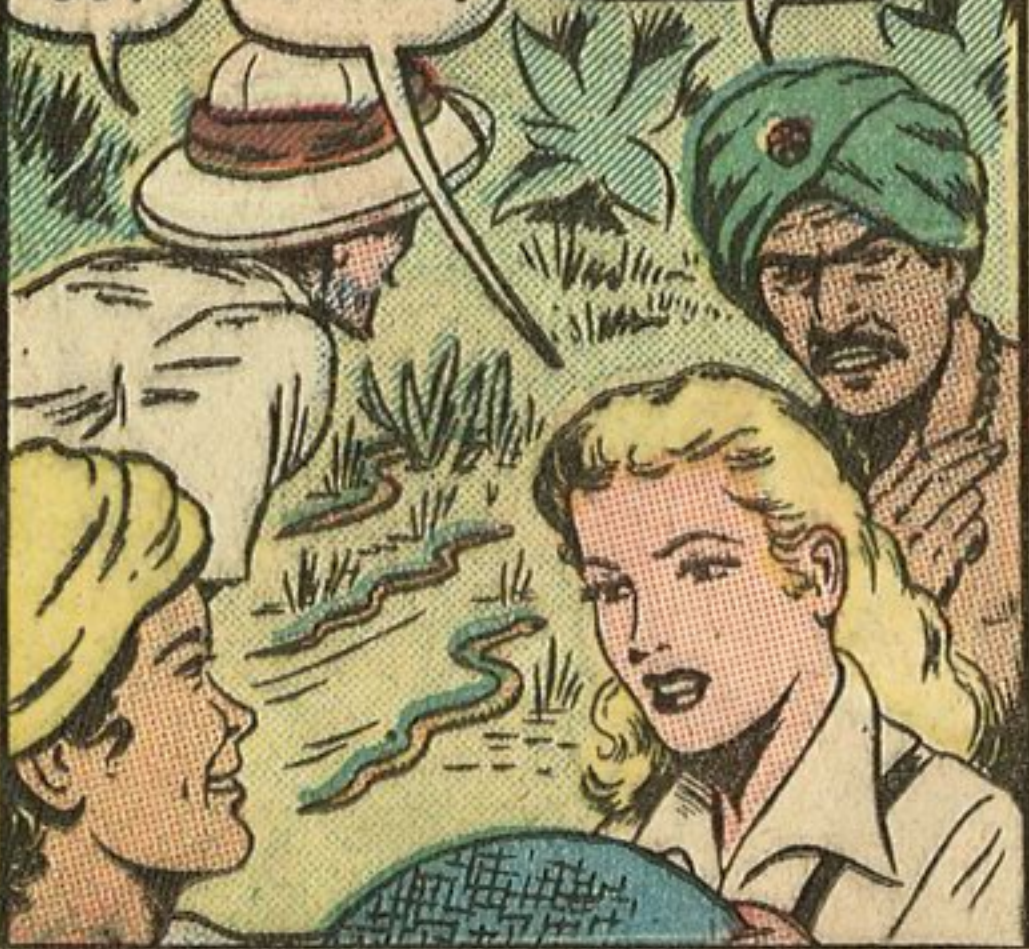
THANK YOU, NARI-- I'LL WEAR IT ALWAYS!

WELL, THERE THEY GO!

WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

MEMSAHIB BARNES-- A WORD WITH YOU, PLEASE!

IT'S NONSENSE, OF COURSE-- BUT I CAN'T HURT HIS FEELINGS!





THAT NIGHT.. IN HER TENT, PAT TOSSED FRET-  
FULLY, GRIPPED BY A FEARFUL NIGHTMARE!



HORRIFIED, PAT WAS STARTLED INTO WAKEFULNESS..  
TO FACE THE INFINITELY GREATER TERROR OF..

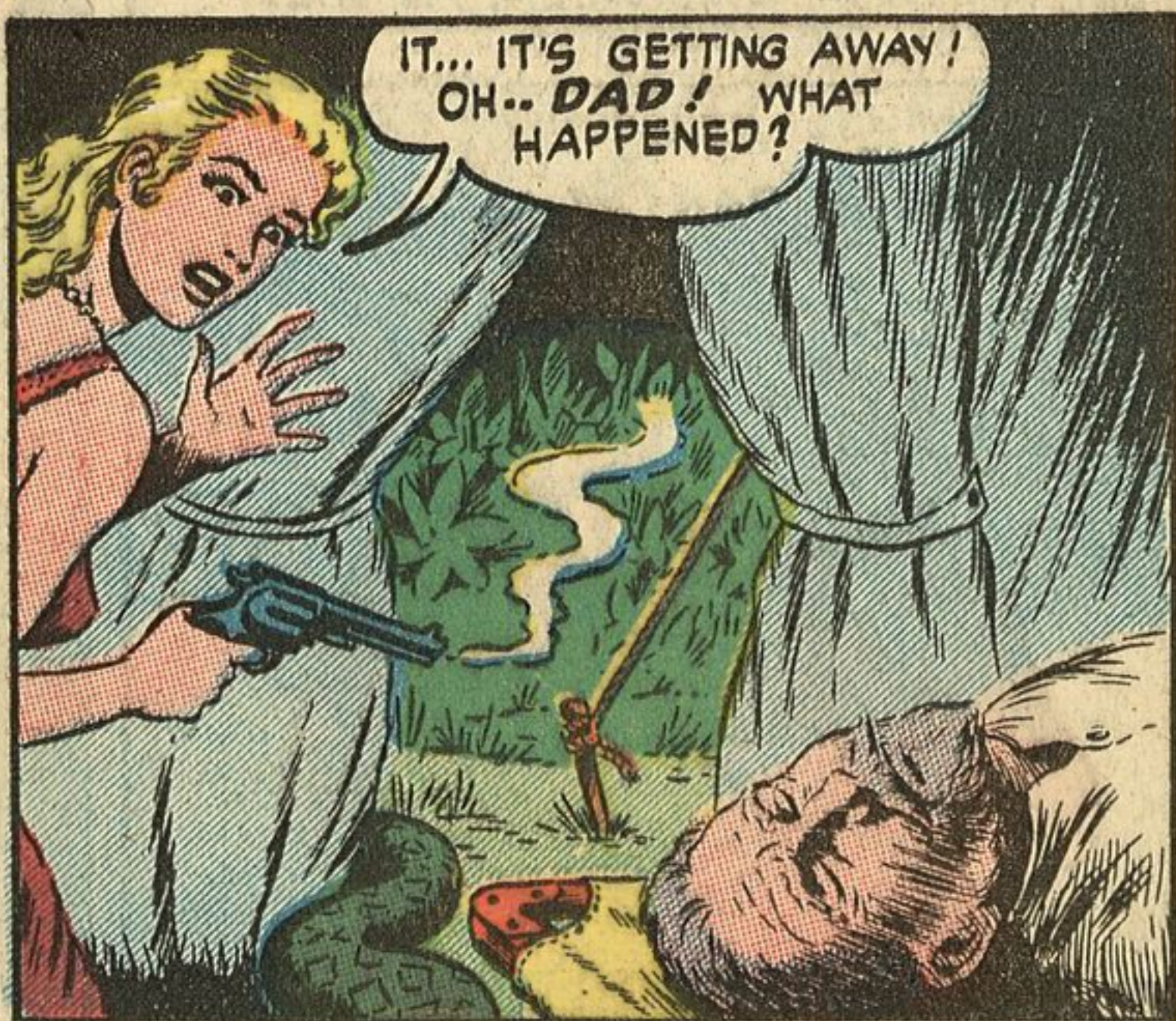
GOOD HEAVENS!  
IT... IT MUST BE.. THE  
SNAKE GODDESS!



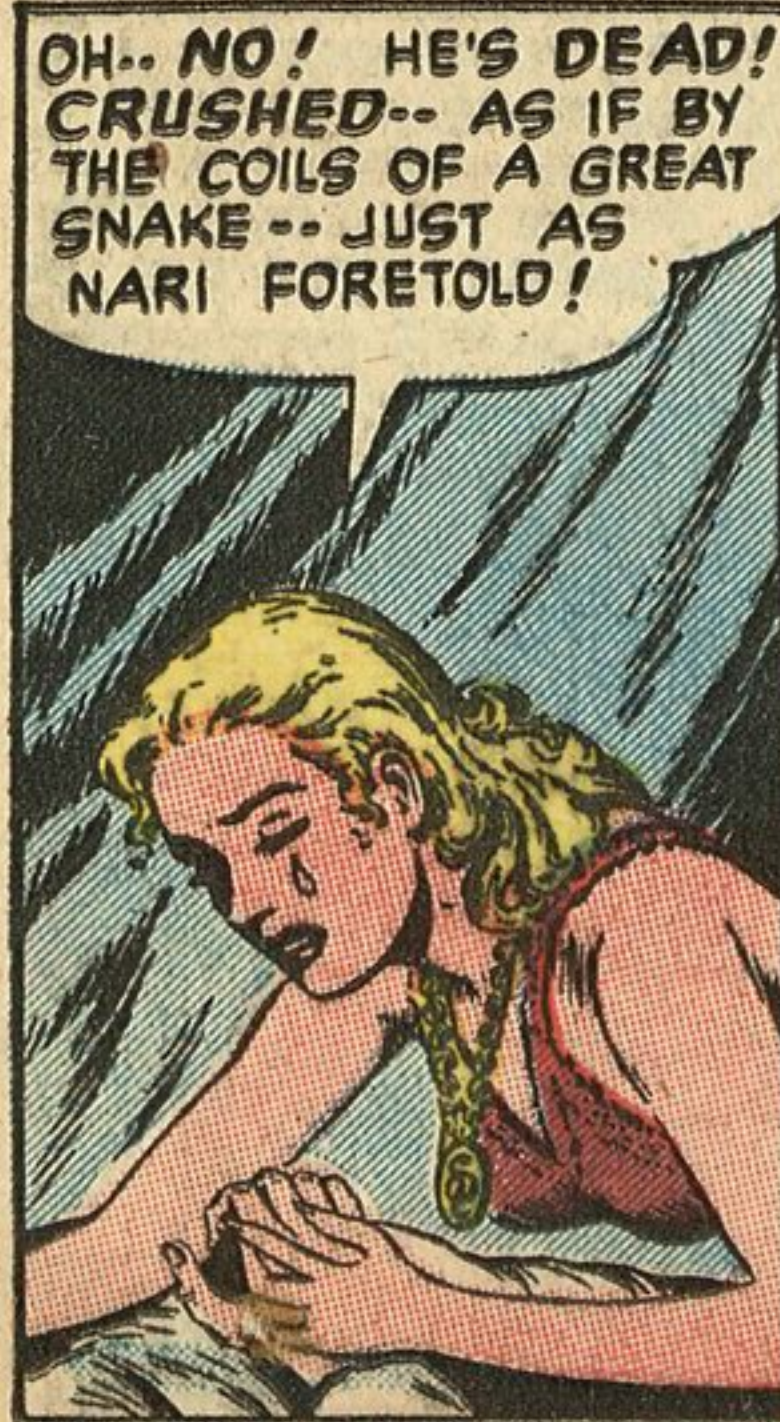
TREMBLING, PAT FIRED POINT-BLANK AT  
THE GHASTLY APPARITION!



BUT THE LIGHT WAS POOR.. HER NERVES SHATTERED..



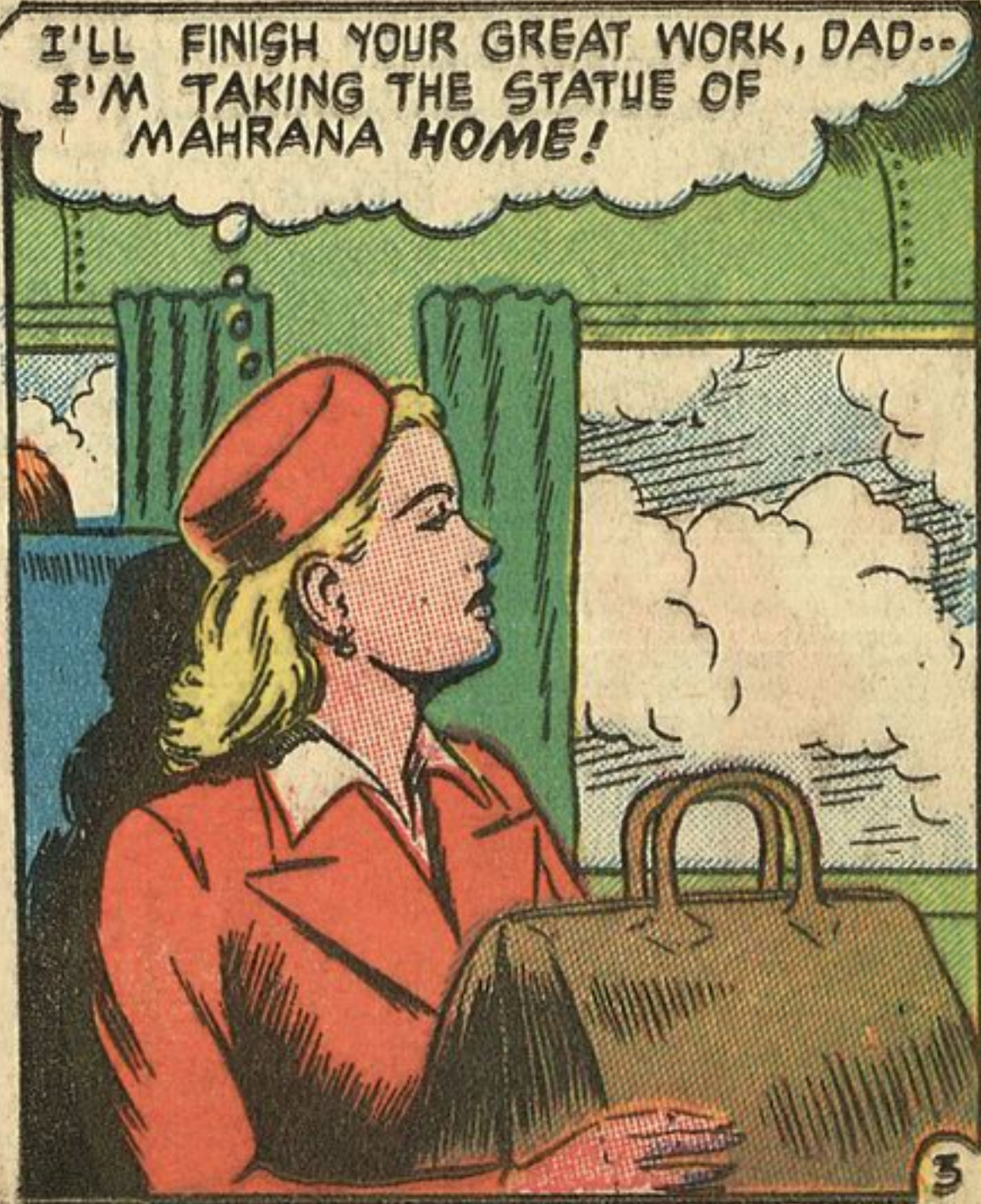
OH.. NO! HE'S DEAD!  
CRUSHED-- AS IF BY  
THE COILS OF A GREAT  
SNAKE -- JUST AS  
NARI FORETOLD!



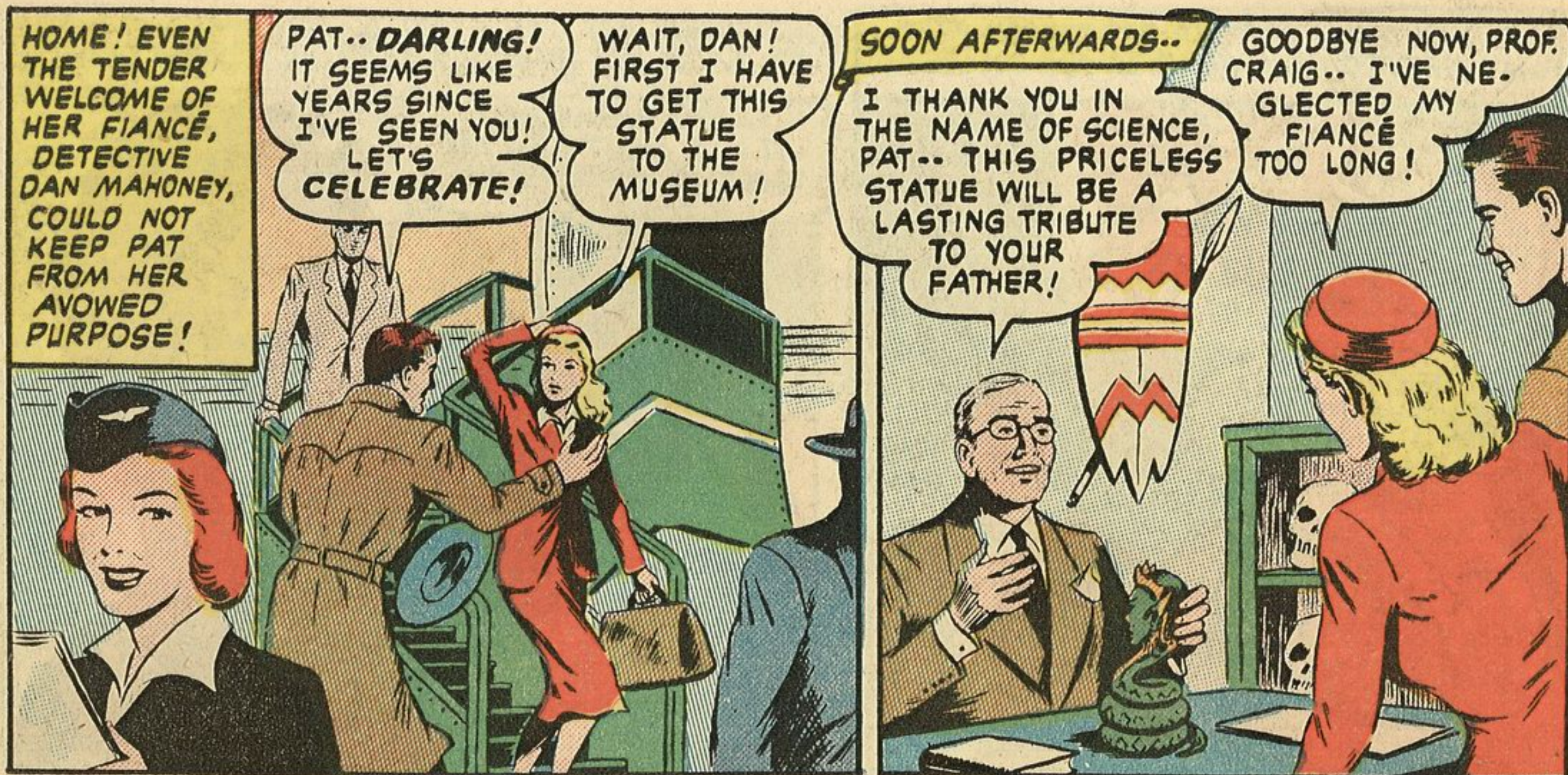
A FEW DAYS LATER.. WINGING  
ACROSS THE PACIFIC..



I'LL FINISH YOUR GREAT WORK, DAD..  
I'M TAKING THE STATUE OF  
MAHRANA HOME!











DAYS LATER..  
A CLUE..

IT... IT'S THE WOMAN  
IN THE MUSEUM!  
AND THE NAME..  
**MAHRANA!**  
I THINK I'LL  
PAY HER A  
VISIT!

SUMMONING UP  
HER COURAGE,  
PAT WENT  
STRAIGHT TO  
THE LAIR OF  
THE SNAKE  
GODDESS  
HERSELF!  
HER HEART  
POUNDING,  
SHE WATCHED  
FROM A FIRE  
ESCAPE..  
WHILE WITHIN..  
THE 20TH  
CENTURY  
GAVE WAY TO  
DARK AGE  
DEMONOLOGY!



AH, THERE SHE IS.. AND  
THERE'S THE STATUE!



O SPIRIT OF THE SERPENT-  
KINGDOM.. GIVE ME THE  
STRENGTH TO DESTROY MY  
ENEMIES  
IN THIS  
STRANGE  
LAND!

I'VE HEARD  
ENOUGH--  
HERE  
GOES!

WHO..?  
WHAT  
DO YOU  
WANT?

I WANT YOU TO  
RETURN TO THE  
VILE JUNGLES  
WHERE YOU  
BELONG, YOU  
MURDEROUS  
MONSTER!

SUDDENLY, A DEMONIC HISS.. A GHASTLY  
TRANSFORMATION.. AND THEN..



YOU FOOL! DO YOU  
KNOW THE PENALTY  
FOR INTERFERING  
WITH MY RITES?  
**DEATH!**

K.. KEEP  
AWAY  
FROM ME!

THE REMORSELESS CREATURE POISED  
TO STRIKE.. BUT AS PAT SPRANG  
BACK IN HORROR, SHE STUMBLERD..  
AND THE FORGOTTEN MAGIC  
AMULET FELL INTO VIEW...

YES.. AND YOU'LL BE HELP-  
LESS AGAINST THE  
POLICE.. WHEN I TELL  
THEM WHO--WHAT YOU  
REALLY ARE!

HA! DO YOU THINK THEY'LL BELIEVE  
SUCH A RIDICULOUS STORY?  
THEY'LL SAY YOU ARE MAD!



ARGH! THE CHARM OF THE  
URDUS! I... I AM  
HELPLESS AGAINST IT!







PERHAPS THE POLICE WON'T LISTEN, BUT YOU HAVE YOUR STATUE -- WHY NOT TAKE IT AND GO BACK TO YOUR JUNGLE HOME?

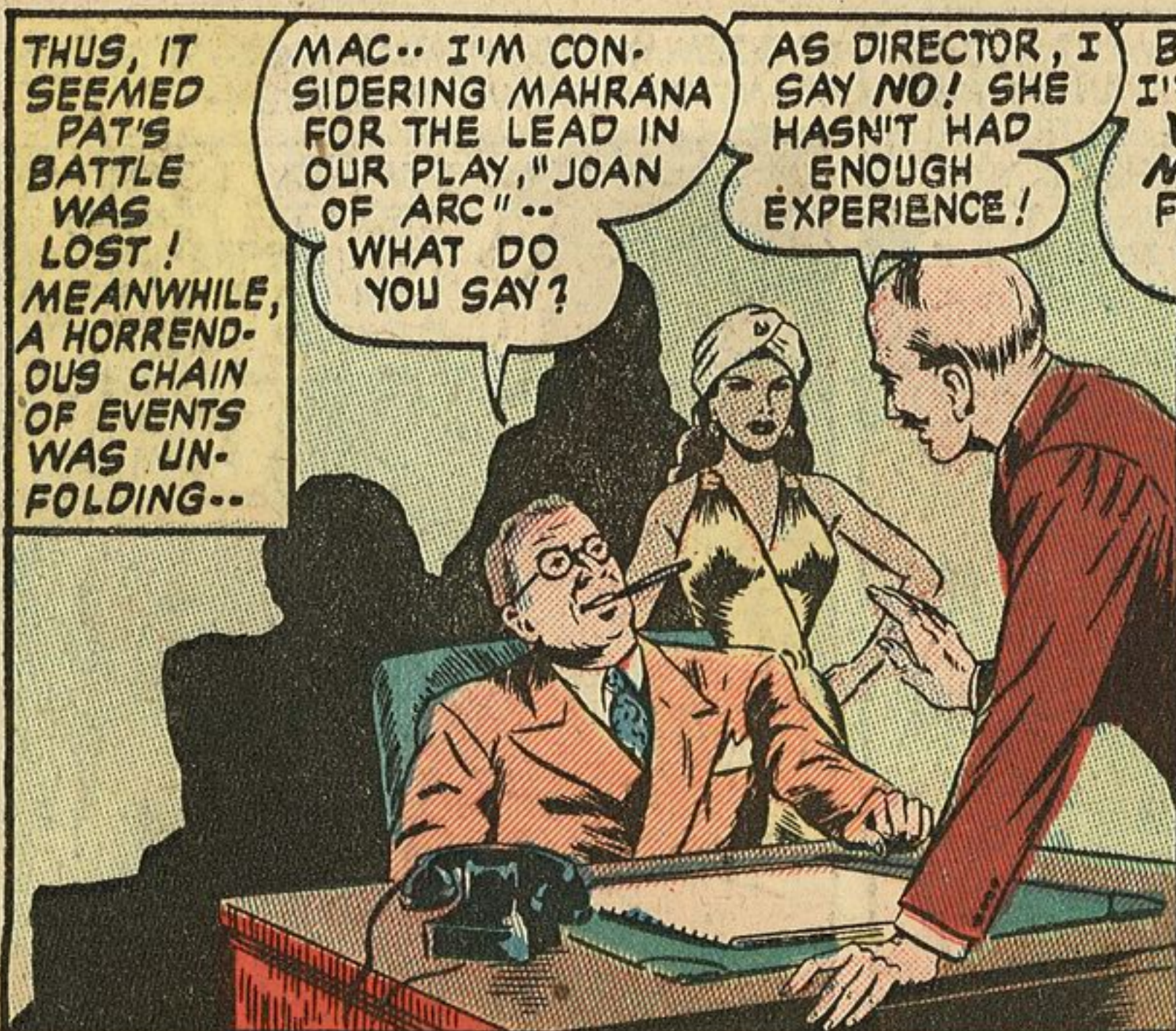
IN INDIA, I WAS LOATHED AS A BEAST! HERE, I AM WORSHIPPED FOR MY BEAUTY! I AM GOING TO BE FAMOUS! NOW.. GET OUT!



LATER--

... THAT'S THE STORY, INSPECTOR! YOU...YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE ME!

SORRY, PAT.. I DON'T! WHAT YOU NEED IS A VACATION-- YOUR NERVES ARE SHATTERED!



THUS, IT SEEMED PAT'S BATTLE WAS LOST! MEANWHILE, A HORRENDOUS CHAIN OF EVENTS WAS UNFOLDING--

MAC.. I'M CONSIDERING MAHRANA FOR THE LEAD IN OUR PLAY, "JOAN OF ARC" -- WHAT DO YOU SAY?

AS DIRECTOR, I SAY NO! SHE HASN'T HAD ENOUGH EXPERIENCE!



BESIDES, I'VE PICKED VERA MONROE FOR THE LEAD!

SORRY, MISS MAHRANA-- THE DIRECTOR'S WORD IS FINAL! MAYBE WE'LL FIND A PART FOR YOU LATER ON!

IT'S ALL RIGHT-- NO HARD FEELINGS! GOODBYE!



THAT NIGHT, WHEN THE DIRECTOR RETURNED HOME--

MISS MAHRANA! WHAT'RE YOU DOING HERE?

DID YOU THINK YOU COULD KEEP ME OUT OF THAT PLAY-- ME, THE SNAKE GODDESS?



THEN-- A MACABRE TRANSFORMATION-- FROM A LOVELY FACE TO-- THE MASK OF DEATH!

NO-- NO! I.. CAN'T BREATHE... ARGHHH!



THE FOOL IS DEAD-- SO IT WILL BE WITH ANYONE WHO TRIES TO STAND IN MY WAY!



AND SO BEGAN THE MOST BAFFLING CRIME WAVE OF ALL TIME -- THE VICTIMS, IMPORTANT PEOPLE IN SHOW BUSINESS -- CRUSHED TO DEATH -- AS BY A GREAT SNAKE --

HERE'S AN INTERESTING ITEM: "MAHRANA GETS COVETED LEAD IN JOAN OF ARC!" HMM... WONDER IF THERE'S ANY CONNECTION?

NEW YORK  
POLICE MYSTIFIED AS VERA MONROE, ACTRESS, FOUND CRUSHED!

MAHRANA GETS COVETED LEAD IN JOAN OF ARC

HIS SUSPICIONS AROUSED, DAN WENT TO MAHRANA'S APARTMENT! THERE...

GOOD... THERE'S NO ONE AROUND! IF MAHRANA IS REALLY WHAT PAT CLAIMS... IF SHE COMMITTED THOSE MURDERS... I SHOULD FIND SOME EVIDENCE HERE!

AFTER A PAINSTAKING SEARCH --

NOTHING -- NOT A SHRED OF EVIDENCE IN THE ROOMS -- OR ON THAT TERRACE! BUT... SOMETHING'S WRONG SOMEHOW...

SUDDENLY -- AN ASTONISHING DISCOVERY --

HOLY SMOKES! I JUST REALIZED -- THERE ARE NO BEDROOMS IN THIS APARTMENT!

MAYBE I'M NUTS -- BUT THAT IS MAHRANA'S BEDROOM! THAT TREE ON THE TERRACE -- WHERE SHE SLEEPS -- AS A SNAKE!

BUT WHEN DAN TRIED TO CONVINCE THE INSPECTOR --

LISTEN, YOU TWO -- ONE MORE WORD ABOUT SNAKE GODDESSES, AND I'LL LOCK YOU BOTH UP!

C'MON, PAT -- I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

AND IN THE HEADLINES, NEXT DAY, DAN MAHONEY SIGNED HIS OWN DEATH WARRANT!

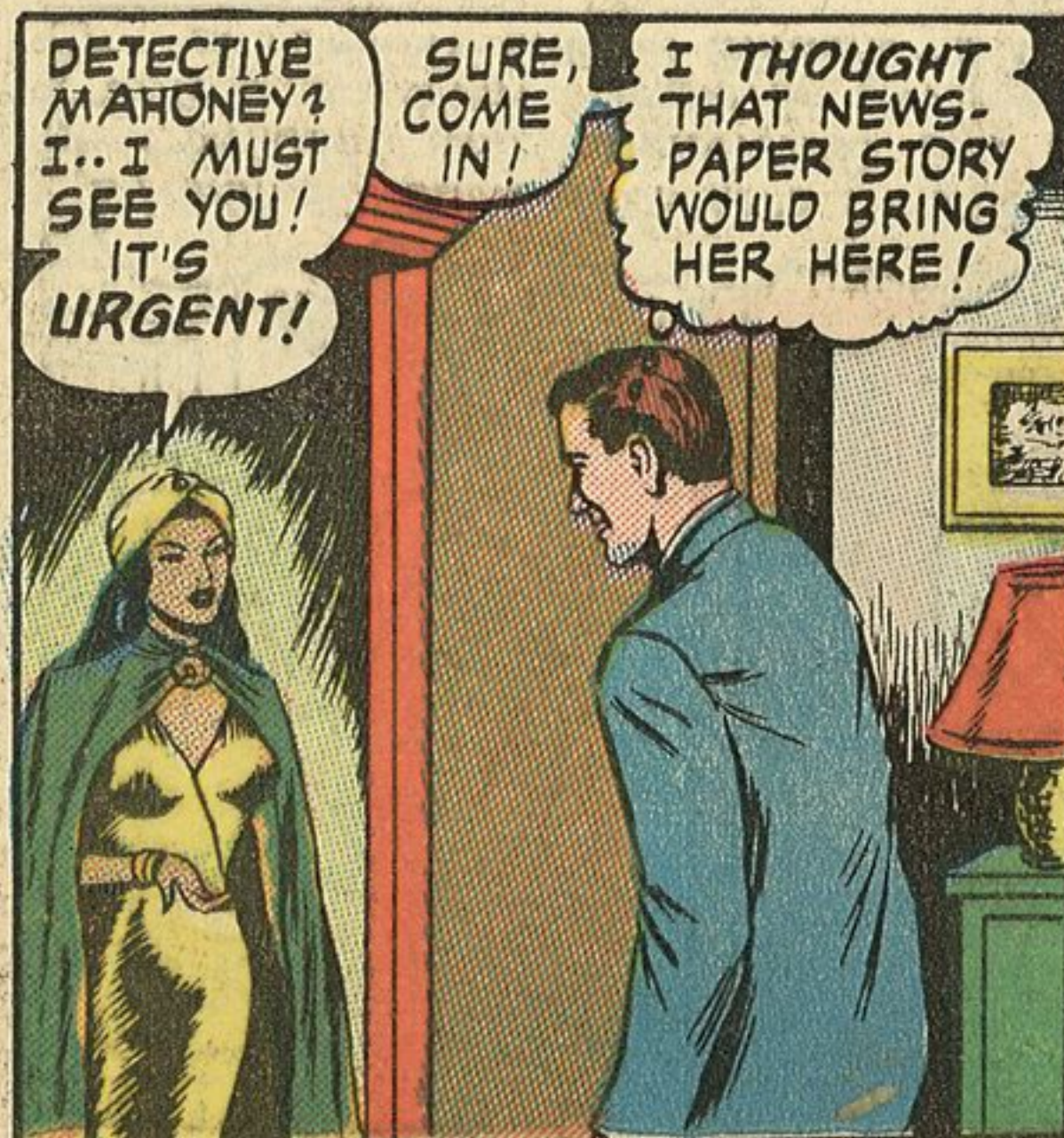
THAT SETTLES IT! THIS DETECTIVE PROVES MEDDLESOME -- HE MUST DIE!

New York Dispatch  
...  
DETECTIVE THWARTED IN ATTEMPT TO PROVE SNAKE THEORY!

DAN MAHONEY



THAT NIGHT, ANSWERING THE EXPECTED KNOCK ON HIS DOOR--



DETECTIVE MAHONEY? I..I MUST SEE YOU! IT'S URGENT!

SURE, COME IN!

I THOUGHT THAT NEWS-PAPER STORY WOULD BRING HER HERE!

IT WAS A FATEFUL MEETING-- AS A MERE MORTAL, ARMED ONLY WITH WITS AND COURAGE-- FACED THE DEADLY WILES OF A MYSTICALLY BEAUTIFUL WOMAN!



I'M ATTRACTED TO YOU, DAN! WHEN I SAW YOUR PICTURE IN THE PAPERS THIS MORNING, I KNEW THAT YOU WERE A MAN I COULD LOVE!

SAVE IT, SISTER! ONCE YOU GOT THOSE TENDER ARMS AROUND MY NECK-- I'D BE CRUSHED-- LIKE THE OTHERS!

AT ONCE-- AN EERIE CHANGE! THE ALTERED FEATURES THAT ONLY PAT HAD LOOKED UPON-- AND LIVED! BUT DAN HAD NO MAGIC AMULET-- ONLY HIS WITS!



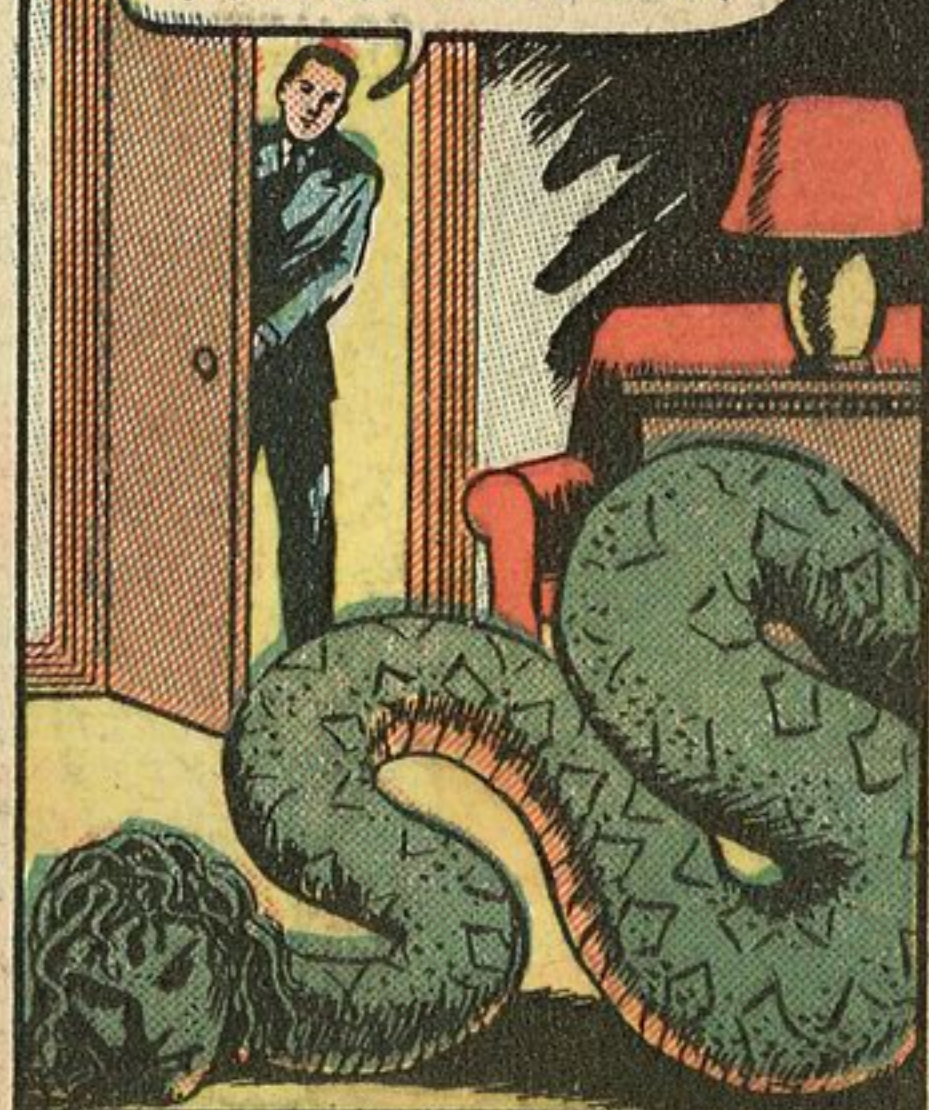
I USED TO PLAY THIS CLARINET IN MY SCHOOL BAND-- LISTEN!

SUDDENLY, LIKE ALL SNAKES, MAHRANA SEEMED HYPNOTIZED-- CHARMED BY THE MUSIC--

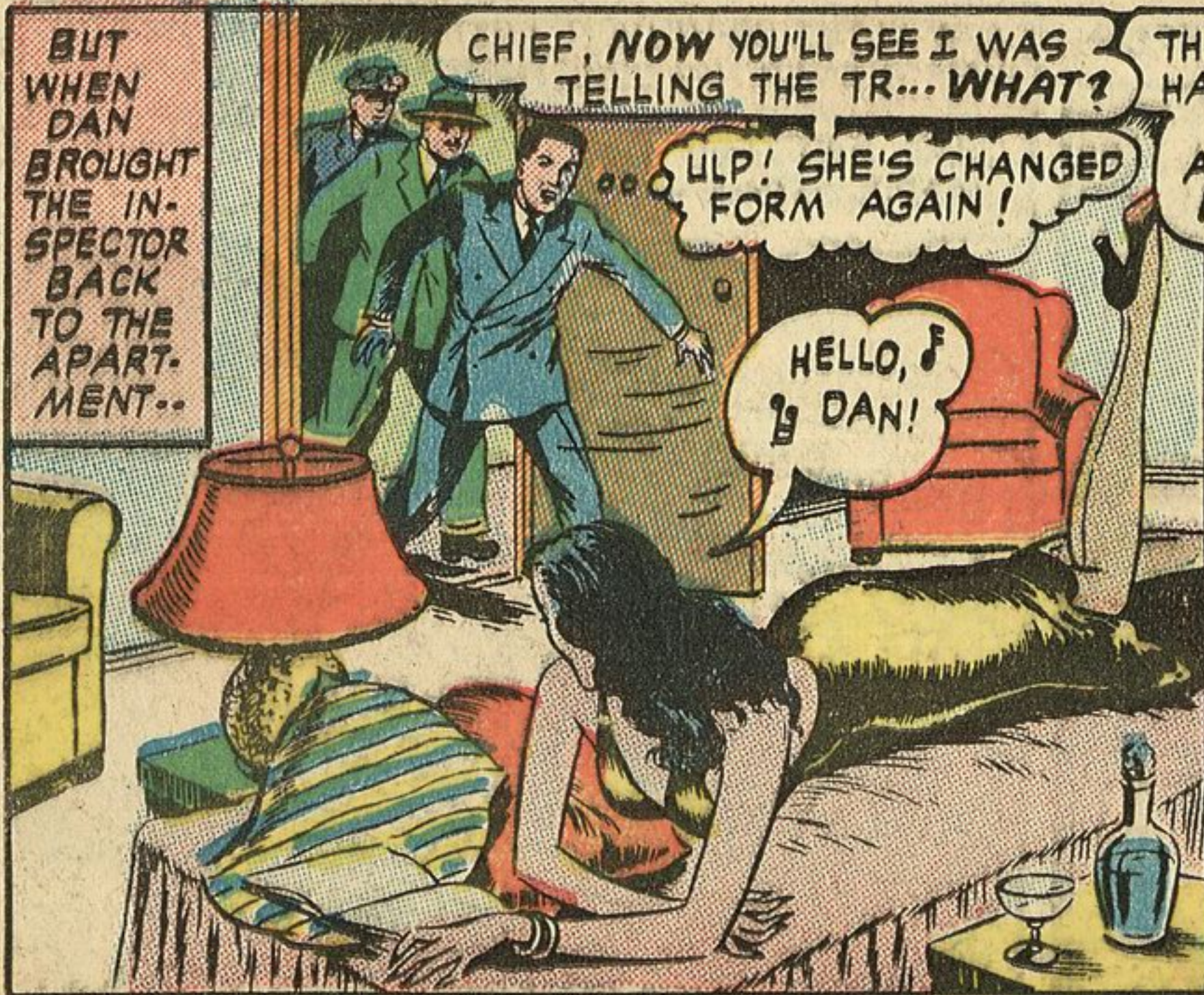


IT'S WORKING! NOW TO PUT THIS BABY TO SLEEP!

SHE'S COMPLETELY MESMERIZED! I'LL LOCK HER IN THE ROOM WHILE I GET THE CHIEF-- AND PROVE MY STORY!



BUT WHEN DAN BROUGHT THE INSPECTOR BACK TO THE APARTMENT--



CHIEF, NOW YOU'LL SEE I WAS TELLING THE TR-- WHAT?

ULP! SHE'S CHANGED FORM AGAIN!

HELLO, DAN!

THIS NONSENSE HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH! ARREST THAT FOOL!

HUH? ARREST DAN?

SORRY, CHIEF-- BUT I'VE GOT WORK TO DO!

WORK TO DO! BUT WHAT? HOW, AS A FUGITIVE FROM THE POLICE, COULD DAN DESTROY THE LIMITLESS EVIL OF THE SNAKE GODDESS?



THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, GAMBLING ON ONE LAST DESPERATE CHANCE TO REDEEM HIMSELF, DAN RUSHED TO THE THEATER WHERE MAHRANA WAS PLAYING JOAN OF ARC!



IS IT A DEAL THEN?

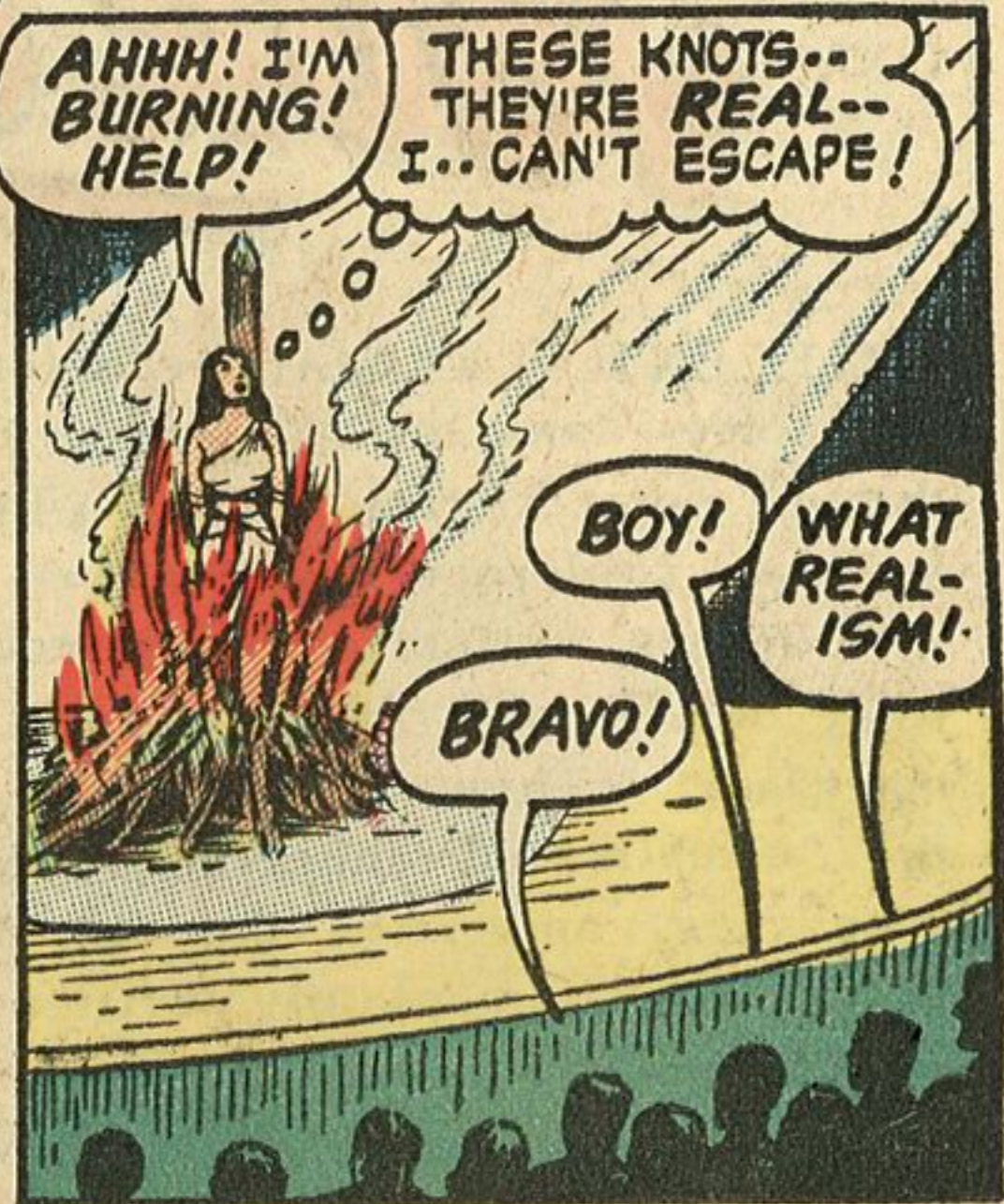
I'LL PROBABLY LOSE MY JOB, BUT-- I'LL DO IT!

THE LAST ACT! JOAN IS ABOUT TO BE BURNED AT THE STAKE--



YOU IDIOT! YOU'VE PILED THE WOOD TOO CLOSE! I'LL REALLY BURN!

THE CONSUMING FLAMES LEAPED HIGHER-- HIGHER!



AHHH! I'M BURNING! HELP!

THESE KNOTS-- THEY'RE REAL-- I.. CAN'T ESCAPE!

BOY! WHAT REALISM!

BRAVO!

THERE WAS BUT ONE WAY OUT FOR THE DEFEATED SNAKE GODDESS-- AND-- SHE TOOK IT! BEFORE THE UNBELIEVING EYES OF A HORRIFIED AUDIENCE...



IN ORDER TO SLIDE OUT OF THOSE ROPES, YOU HAD TO TURN INTO YOUR TRUE FORM! AND THAT'S JUST WHAT I WAS WAITING FOR!

BANG! BANG! BANG!

THE ECHOING GUNFIRE HAD HARDLY DIED AWAY, WHEN...



I HEARD THOSE SHOTS IN THE WINGS, MAHONEY-- I'M ARRESTING YOU FOR THE MURDER OF MAHRAHA!

WHA..? SHE'S CHANGED BACK AGAIN-- IN DEATH! BUT, CHIEF-- TWO MINUTES AGO, SHE WAS A SNAKE!

YOU GOT ANY WITNESSES, MAHONEY?



WITNESSES? SURE-- ONLY A THOUSAND OF THEM!



WELL, I'LL BE...!

SURE!

HE'S RIGHT!

I'LL TESTIFY!

LATER--



AFTER THAT, DARLING-- MY EXPLORING DAYS ARE OVER!

NOT QUITE! WE'RE GOING EXPLORING-- FOR A JUSTICE OF THE PEACE!



# From **YOUR EDITOR-** to **YOU!**

**R**ECENTLY WE HAD occasion to show some fans of "Forbidden Worlds" through our editorial offices. They sat in on story conferences and talked at length with artists, writers, and researchers about what goes into the making of a great comics magazine. Then we took them to watch the complicated engraving and printing processes, and when the tour was over, amazement was plainly written over all their faces.

"You mean..." one of the fellows fumbled, "...that all this goes behind the publishing of one issue?"

"Yes," we nodded gravely, "and much more."

Somebody asked us the secret of our success. We ascribed it to hard work, of course, but there has been something more...a policy. You see, we've kept ourselves very much alive to our readers' opinions. Down the years, we've been deluged with advice, commentary, and criticism. Most of it has been helpful, but all of it has been carefully considered. By keeping our stories framed to reader preferences we have created a magazine which hundreds

of thousands of fans throughout the country have taken to their hearts. That's all the thanks we crave.

Consider the current issue, the result of months of painstaking effort. The terror-packed pages of "The Doll" are guaranteed to hold you spellbound until the last gasp-laden moment. "The Living Head" is something different...a tale of ghoulish evil unmatched in a long, long time. As for "The Lure of the Snake Goddess", it's precisely the kind of story you've clamored for...a yarn born in far-off India, land of a thousand eerie menaces. "Mountain of Doom" takes us to the age-old Alps Mountains...for a weird adventure into the byways of life and death.

Fans, we'd like your comments about these yarns. Only thus can we continue to bring you your favorite fare. Do you like vampire stories especially? Then by all means let us know! Or do you prefer ghosts, witches, old castles and moonless nights? In any case, write to us: The Editor, "Forbidden Worlds", 45 West 45th Street, New York 36, N. Y. And now, let's hear what some of our other fans are saying:

"Dear Editor:-

After reading many supernatural magazines, I've decided that 'Forbidden Worlds' is the best...real top-shelf stuff. In your last issue I thought 'Wax Demons' tops, with 'Clutching Curse' a close second.

--Lou Sotis, Lynn, Mass."

"Dear Editor:-

I have saved every copy put out of 'Forbidden Worlds'. The stories are simply terrific. Keep up the good work.

--Andrew Romano, Newark, N. J."

"Dear Editor:-

I have read 'Forbidden Worlds' for a long time. So have all my friends, and we think your stories are swell. In fact, we have formed a club called 'Forbidden' and we read your comics all the time.

--Linda Lorentz, Chicago, Ill."

"Dear Editor:-

Thanks lots for the wonderful stories in 'Forbidden Worlds'. Keep them coming.

--M. Sanders, Newton, N. C."



# "TRUE" WEREWOLVES of HISTORY

## The Rajah of Balavalphur

ONE OF INDIA'S MOST ANCIENT WEREWOLF LEGENDS TELLS OF THE TIME WHEN THE PROVINCE OF BALARALPHUR WAS RAVAGED BY A BAND OF TERRIBLE WOLVES--LED BY THE LARGEST AND FIERCEST OF THEM ALL--TRULY A KING AMONG WOLVES!



BUT WHENEVER THE NATIVES BEGGED THE RULING RAJAH TO TAKE STEPS TO PROTECT THEM FROM THE WOLVES...

BUT THE WOLF-PACK CAUSED SO MANY DEATHS THAT FINALLY A GROUP OF NATIVES DECIDED TO SPEAK TO THE RAJAH AT **ANY** COST!

A DELEGATION OF YOUR SUBJECTS IS HERE TO SEE YOU, O MIGHTY RULER--SEEKING AID AGAINST THE **WOLVES!**

**DRIVE THEM FROM THE PALACE!** IF THEY THEMSELVES CANNOT TAKE CARE OF THE WOLVES, THEN THE WOLVES WILL TAKE CARE OF **THEM!**

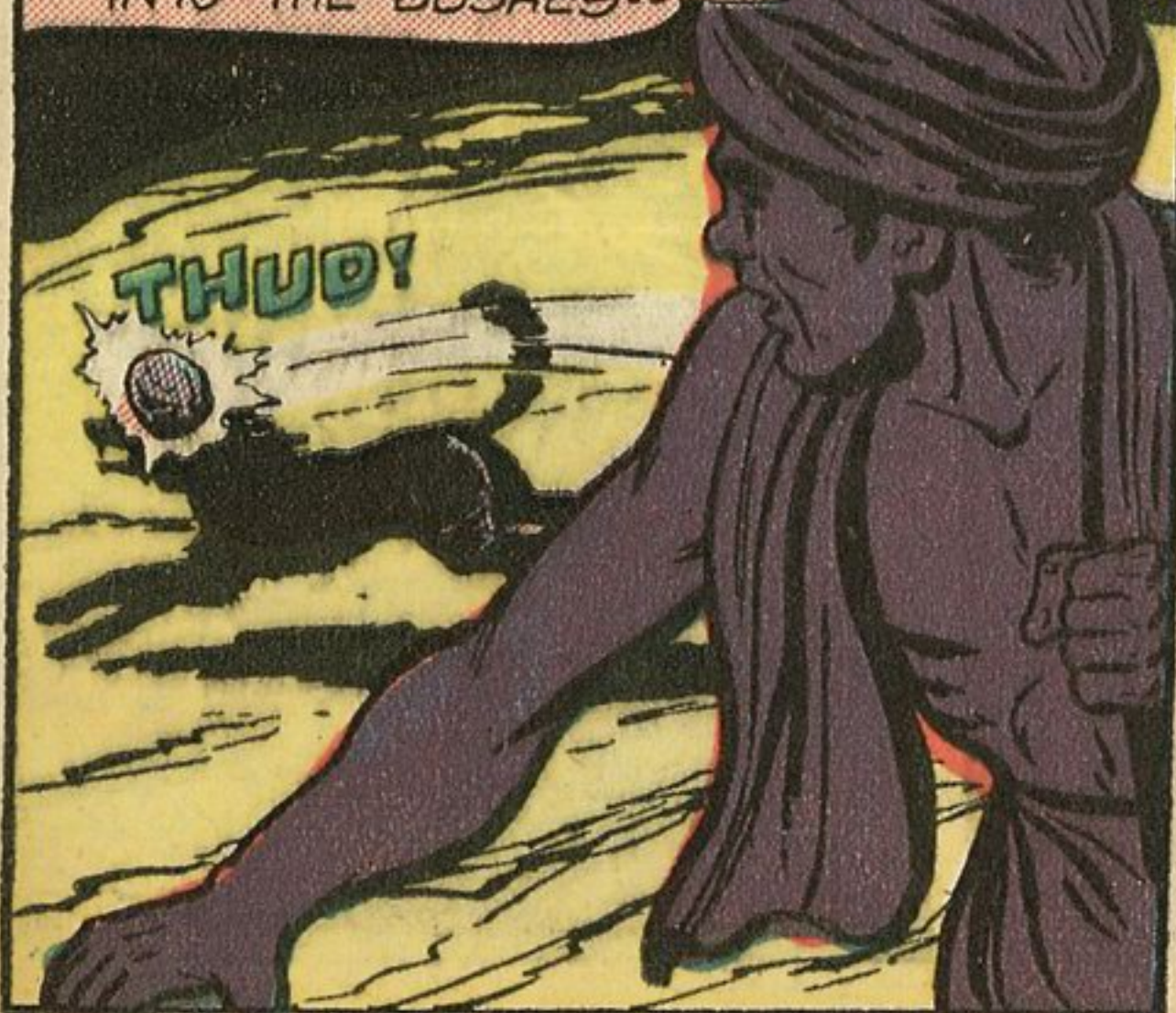
THE RAJAH WILL HAVE TO RETURN FROM HIS WALK ALONG THIS ROAD---

**LOOK--A WOLF!**



ONE OF THE NATIVES HURLED A LARGE ROCK--SCORING A DIRECT HIT BEFORE THE WOLF BOUNDED AWAY INTO THE BUSHES--

NEXT MORNING, THE PALACE DOCTOR WAS CALLED IN TO ATTEND TO THE RAJAH, WHO HAD A STRANGE SWELLING ON HIS HEAD--

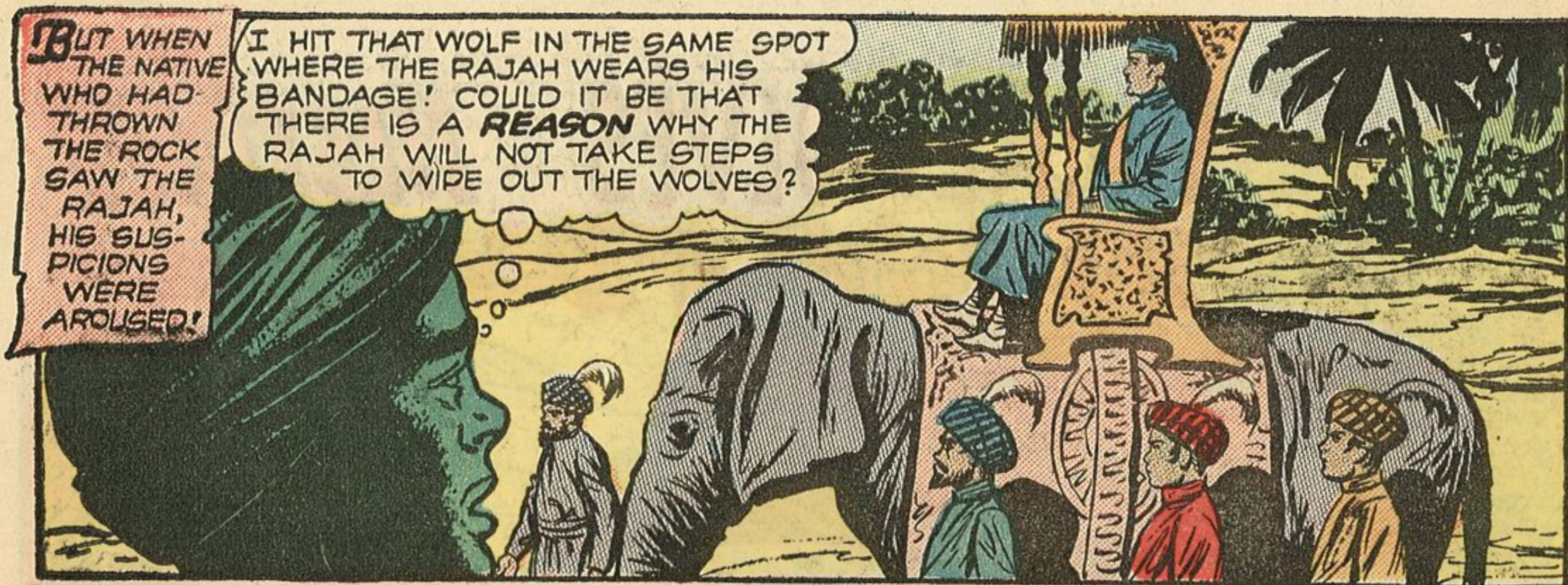


STRANGE--THERE SEEMS TO BE THE IMPRINT OF A ROCK ON YOUR FOREHEAD, MASTER---

**HOLD YOUR TONGUE, FOOL!**







**BUT WHEN THE NATIVE WHO HAD THROWN THE ROCK SAW THE RAJAH, HIS SUSPICIONS WERE AROUSED!**

**I HIT THAT WOLF IN THE SAME SPOT WHERE THE RAJAH WEARS HIS BANDAGE! COULD IT BE THAT THERE IS A **REASON** WHY THE RAJAH WILL NOT TAKE STEPS TO WIPE OUT THE WOLVES?**

**WHEN THE NATIVE COMMUNICATED HIS SUSPICIONS TO HIS FELLOW VILLAGERS--**

**IT IS FANTASTIC-- BUT WE MUST FIND OUT!**

**IT WILL BE A SIMPLE MATTER TO PLACE A WOLF TRAP BENEATH THE RAJAH'S WINDOW-- AND TO LIE IN WAIT TONIGHT!**

**THAT NIGHT--**

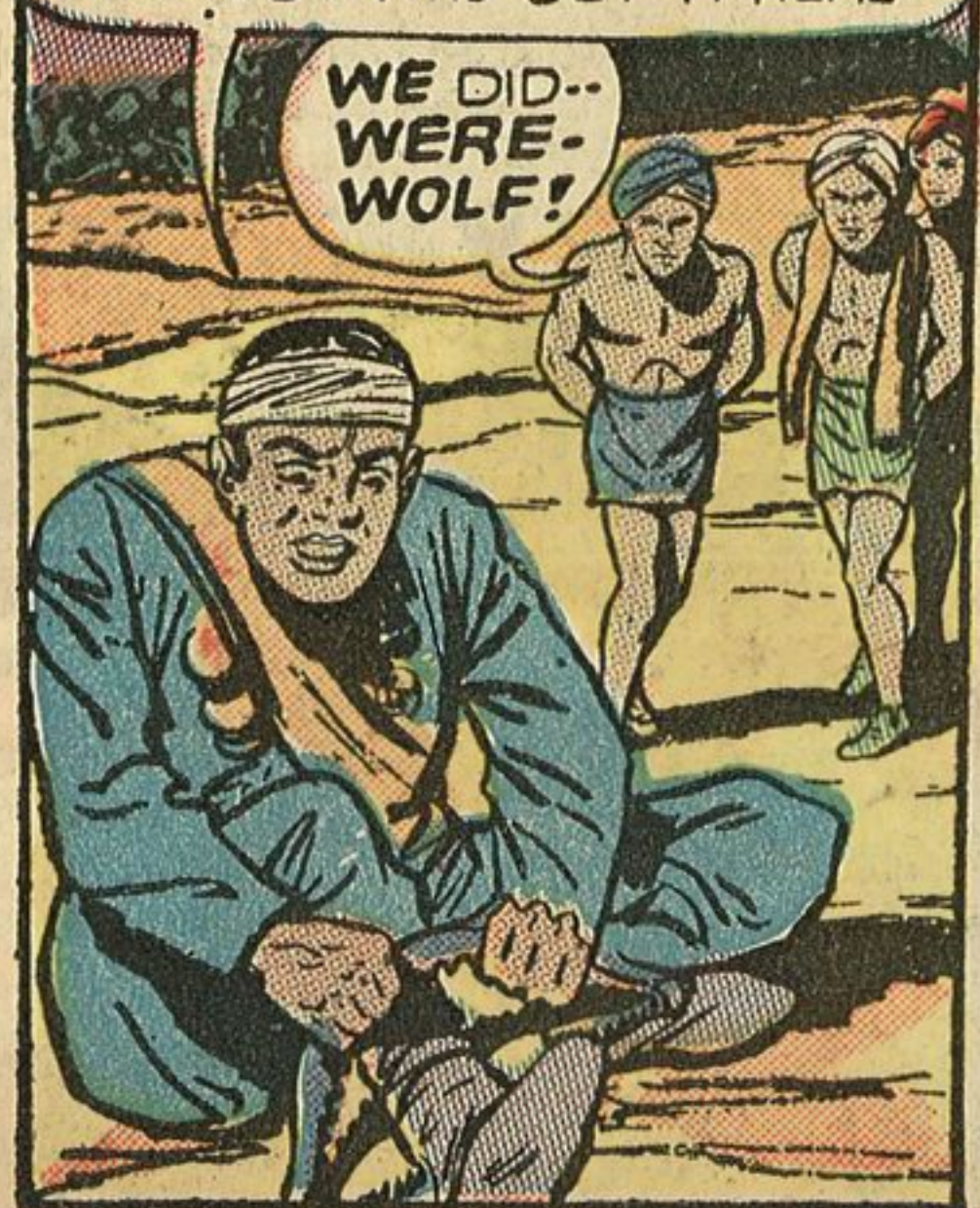
**LOOK-- A WOLF-- BOUNDING TOWARD THE RAJAH'S WINDOW!**



**INSTANTLY... AN INCREDIBLE TRANSFORMATION!**

**I HAD TO-- RETURN TO MY HUMAN FORM-- TO GET RID OF THE TRAP! BUT WHEN I FIND OUT WHO SET IT HERE--**

**WE DID-- WERE-- WOLF!**



**YOU... YOU SAW-- YOU KNOW--**

**WE KNOW-- AND NOW, YOU DIE!**



**THE NATIVES WERE EXECUTED NEXT MORNING FOR BEATING THE RAJAH TO DEATH-- BUT STRANGELY, THE PROVINCE OF BALARALPHUR WAS **NEVER TROUBLED BY WOLVES AGAIN!****



**The End**



**I**T WAS A WEIRD STORY HE HAD HEARD, BUT THE LURE OF ADVENTURE WAS A CHALLENGE HE COULDN'T REFUSE! HE WAS DETERMINED TO SUCCEED WHERE OTHERS HAD FAILED, NEVER REALIZING WHAT AWESOME TERROR AWAITED THOSE WHO DARED ASCEND THE...

# MOUNTAIN of DOOM



AT A SMALL INN, IN THE HEART OF THE AUSTRIAN TYROLS--

THAT'S AN IMPRESSIVE MOUNTAIN, HERR MULLER-- DO YOU THINK A SECOND-RATE AMERICAN CLIMBER LIKE ME COULD SCALE IT?

YOU ARE NO SECOND-RATE CLIMBER, MR. DIXON, BUT I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND IT!

TO US WHO HAVE LIVED HERE ALL OUR LIVES, IT IS KNOWN AS THE MOUNTAIN OF DOOM! THERE IS A LEGEND, TOO-- WHICH TELLS OF A WHITE BOAR WHO SUPPOSEDLY LIVES NEAR THE PEAK! IT HAS BEEN HUNTED OFTEN, BUT NEVER CAUGHT!

A WHITE BOAR, EH? YOU'VE MADE ME INTERESTED, MULLER-- INTERESTED ENOUGH TO TRY IT MYSELF!





BUT I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU WHY WE CALL IT THE MOUNTAIN OF DOOM! IT'S BECAUSE **MANY** HAVE GONE TO HUNT THE WHITE BOAR-- **BUT NONE EVER RETURNED!**

THAT **CLINCHES** IT! I'M CLIMBING THAT PILE OF ROCK FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!

*all* THE FOLLOWING DAY, UNTIL LATE AFTERNOON, ALEX STRUGGLED UPWARD--

I'M--REALLY--POOPED! WHEN I REACH THAT LEDGE UP THERE-- I'LL MAKE CAMP FOR THE NIGHT!

WHAT D'YA KNOW-- A HOUSE! THIS IS LUCK-- I'D CERTAINLY PREFER A BED TO MY SLEEPING BAG!

BUT A FEW MINUTES LATER, INSIDE THE HOUSE--

THIS IS NO LODGING HOUSE, AND STRANGERS AREN'T WELCOME! SO PICK YOURSELF UP AND **GO!** BEGONE NOW-- **OFF WITH YE!**

NO NEED TO GET YOURSELF INTO A LATHER, PAL-- I CAN TAKE A HINT!

UNEXPECTEDLY--

**WAIT!** THERE IS NO NEED TO SEND HIM AWAY, UNCLE-- THERE IS ROOM HERE!

WELL, THANK YOU, MISS... ER...

CALL ME-- **TRINA!** WE DON'T SEE PEOPLE UP HERE VERY OFTEN-- AND SO WE'RE A BIT GRUFF! YOU SEEM TIRED-- COME, I'LL SHOW YOU TO YOUR ROOM!

THANKS, TRINA! MY NAME IS ALEX DIXON-- I HOPE WE'LL BE FRIENDS!

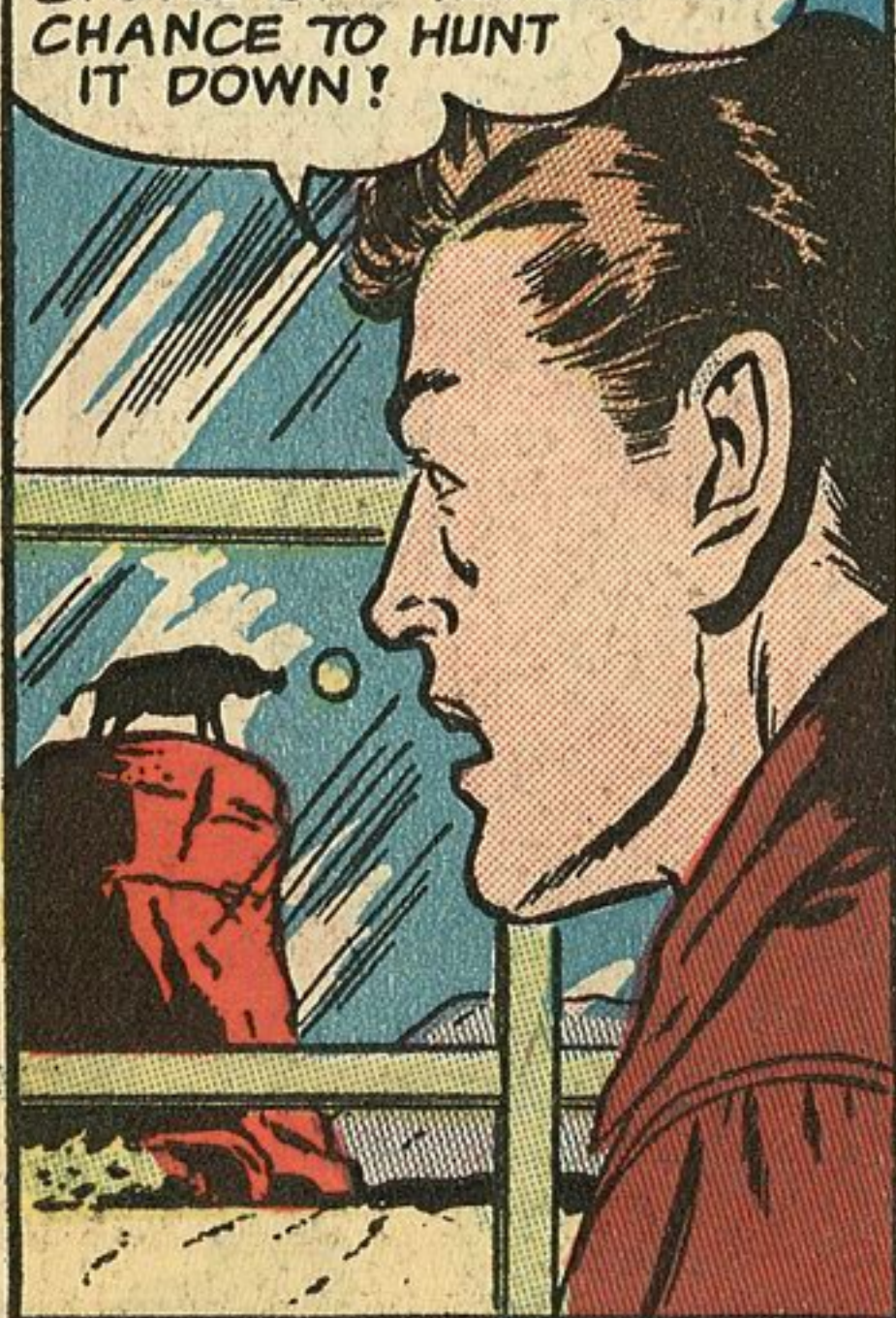
THE HOURS PASS, NIGHT ENSHROUDS THE MOUNTAIN, THEN, ALL AT ONCE, THE AIR IS SHATTERED BY A GUTTERAL CRY--

**EEYOWW!**



INSTANTLY, ALEX IS OUT  
OF BED--

WELL, I'LL BE--! IT'S THE  
**WHITE BOAR** MULLER  
SPOKE OF! HERE'S MY  
CHANCE TO HUNT  
IT DOWN!

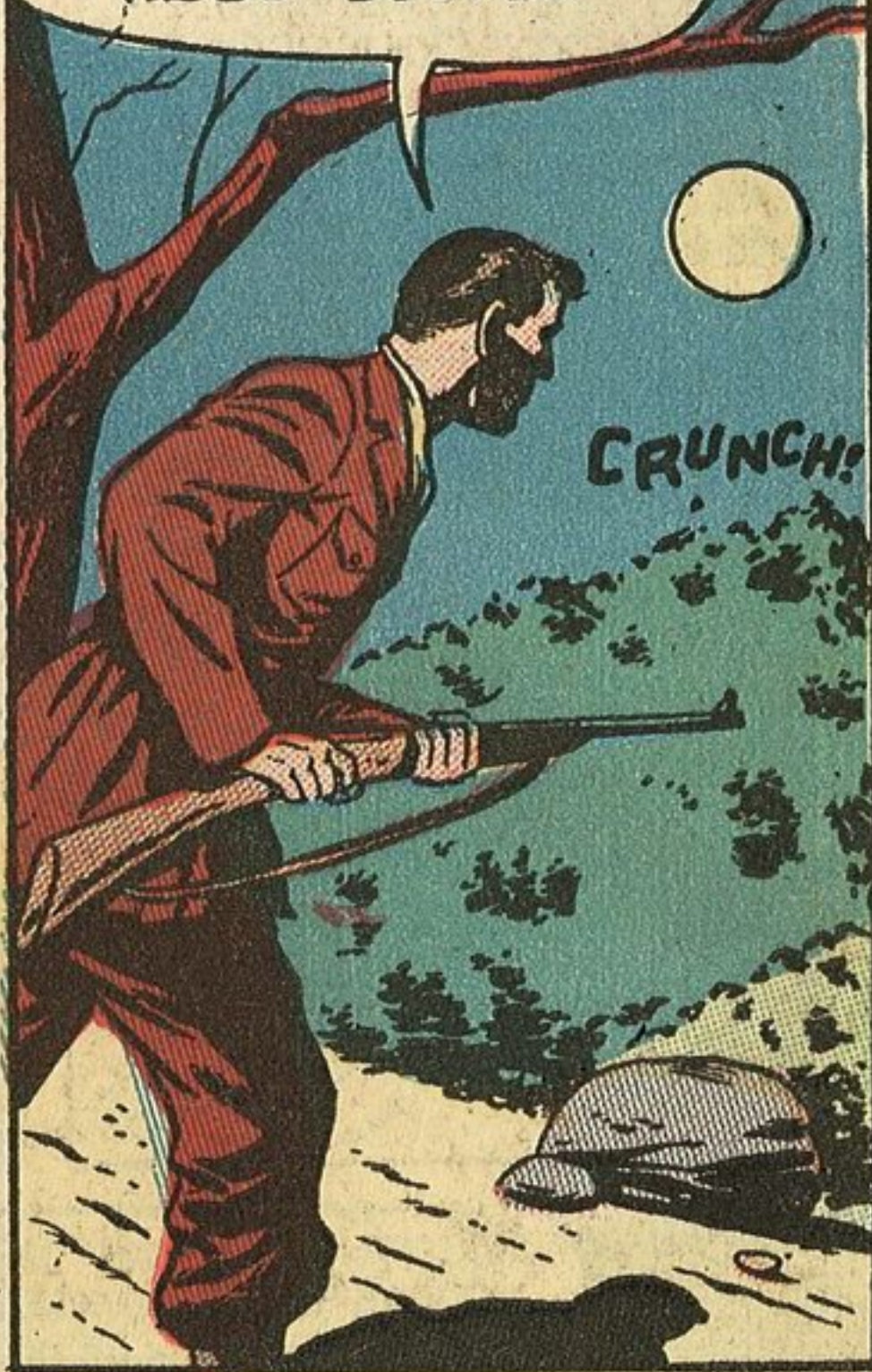


MINUTES LATER, IN  
SWIFT PURSUIT--

IT'S HEADING FOR THAT  
BRUSH! ONCE IT GETS IN  
THERE, I'LL NEVER GET  
A SHOT AT IT!



I'VE LOST IT! HOLD IT--THAT  
NOISE COMING FROM  
THOSE 'BUSHES--



GREAT GUNS--  
IT CAN'T BE!  
NO-- NO!



With A  
MURDEROUS  
- RUSH--

EEYOWWW!



SWIFTLY THE CREATURE'S MONSTROUS  
STRENGTH OVERWHELMS ALEX... ITS RAZOR-  
SHARP TUSKS SEEKING THE THROAT--

BUT AS THE FIRST RAYS OF DAWN SUDDENLY  
STREAK THE EASTERN SKY, THE MONSTER  
RISES WITH AN ANGRY SNARL--

IT'S-- CRUSHING-- MY-- WINDPIPE!  
I'M-- BLACKING-- OUT--!



YOWWWWW!





.. AND THEN DASHES OFF! TIME PASSES--AND A DISTANT SHOUT REVIVES ALEX MOMENTARILY-- UNTIL UNCONSCIOUSNESS ONCE MORE OVERTAKES HIM!



ALEX!  
ALEX!

WHAT SEEMS AN ETERNITY LATER--

WH-  
WHERE  
AM I?  
H-HOW  
DID I  
GET  
HERE?

I FOUND YOU OUT ON  
THE SLOPE! IT WAS  
**MADNESS** TO HUNT  
THE WHITE BOAR--  
YOU COULD HAVE  
BEEN **KILLED**!



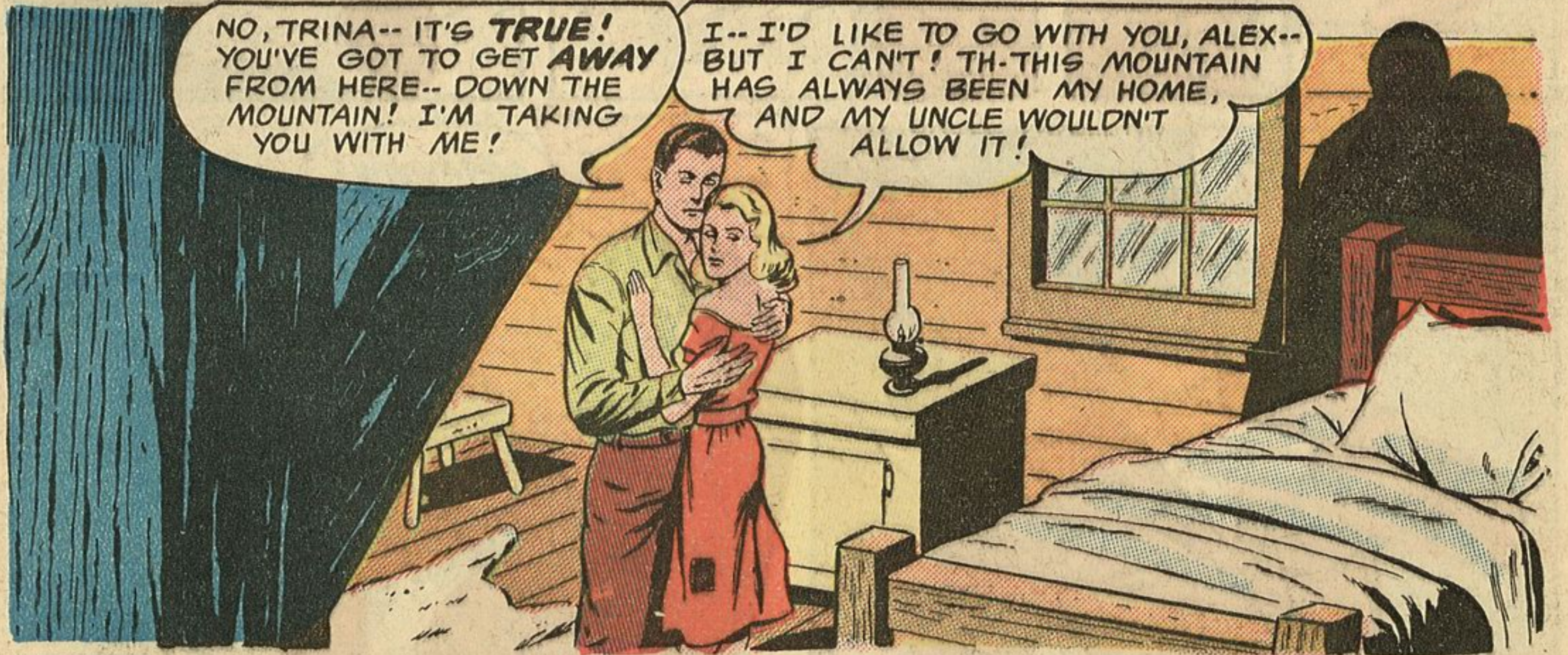
BUT IT WASN'T THE **BOAR** THAT  
ATTACKED ME! IT WAS SOME  
KIND OF MONSTROUS **BEAST**..  
**PART HUMAN AND PART**  
**ANIMAL**! IT RAN OFF THE  
SECOND DAWN  
CAME, AS  
THOUGH IT  
WERE AFRAID  
OF THE  
LIGHT!

YOU'RE TALKING  
**NONSENSE**, ALEX!  
IT **COULDN'T**  
BE! Y-YOU'RE  
DELIRIOUS!



NO, TRINA-- IT'S **TRUE**!  
YOU'VE GOT TO GET **AWAY**  
FROM HERE-- DOWN THE  
MOUNTAIN! I'M TAKING  
YOU WITH ME!

I-- I'D LIKE TO GO WITH YOU, ALEX--  
BUT I CAN'T! TH-THIS MOUNTAIN  
HAS ALWAYS BEEN MY HOME,  
AND MY UNCLE WOULDN'T  
ALLOW IT!



BUT YOU **MUST**  
COME! DON'T  
YOU SEE, TRINA--  
DESPITE THE  
LITTLE TIME  
WE'VE KNOWN  
EACH OTHER,  
I'M **DRAWN**  
TO YOU! I  
**CAN'T**  
LEAVE  
YOU  
BEHIND!

I-- I UNDERSTAND,  
ALEX! FROM THE  
MOMENT YOU  
STEPPED INSIDE  
THE HOUSE-- I FELT  
SOMETHING BRING-  
ING US TOGETHER!  
THE FOOTPATH  
BESIDE THE HOUSE  
LEADS TO A SMALL  
CATARACT--I **WILL**  
MEET YOU THERE--AT  
**MIDNIGHT**-- WHEN MY  
UNCLE IS  
ASLEEP!

As MIDNIGHT APPROACHES,  
ALEX WAITS ANXIOUSLY AT  
THE APPOINTED SPOT--

SHE SHOULD BE HERE  
ANY MINUTE NOW! AH, I  
HEAR FOOTSTEPS  
APPROACHING! THAT  
MUST BE HER!



OF COURSE, YOU  
FOOL! I OVER-  
HEARD YOUR PLANS  
-- BUT TRINA  
**WILL NEVER**  
**LEAVE HERE**  
**ALIVE!**

YOU!







YOU MISERABLE OLD TYRANT! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE TO HER? WHERE IS SHE? TELL ME, OR I'LL **KILL YOU!**



FOOL-- I AM THE ONE WHO WILL DO THE KILLING!

YOUR HANDS AND FACE-- **THEY'RE CHANGING!** THEN IT'S **YOU!**



**EEYOWWWW!**



**SUDDENLY, FROM ABOVE--**

IT'S THE **WHITE BOAR!**

**GROWRR!**

*With DEMONIACAL FURY THE TWO BEASTS CLASH, AND THE AIR BOILS WITH THEIR FRENZIED CRIES--*



IT'S A FIGHT TO THE FINISH-- THEY'RE **KILLING EACH OTHER!**

**ARGHHH!**



**SECONDS AFTERWARDS--**

HE'S DEAD, BUT THE WHITE BOAR-- SOMETHING'S **HAPPENING** TO IT! IT'S STARTING TO **CHANGE!** IT'S TURNING INTO---



**TRINA!**

YES-- ALEX! NOW YOU KNOW... WHY I WANTED TO REMAIN! MY UNCLE AND I WERE THE LAST OF OUR FEARFUL KIND! HE'S DEAD... SOON I WILL DIE... TOO! IT IS... FAR BETTER! FAREWELL, MY... **OHhh!**



**TWO DAYS LATER--**

AND YOU HAVE **NOTHING** TO SAY BEFORE LEAVING? **NOTHING** ABOUT THE WHITE BOAR?

IT WAS ONLY A **MYTH**, HERR MULLER! I SAW **NOTHING** WHILE I WAS THERE, AND NEITHER WILL ANYONE ELSE-- **EVER!** ON THAT I GIVE MY WORD!

**THE END**



**BOYS! GIRLS! MOTHERS! DADS!**

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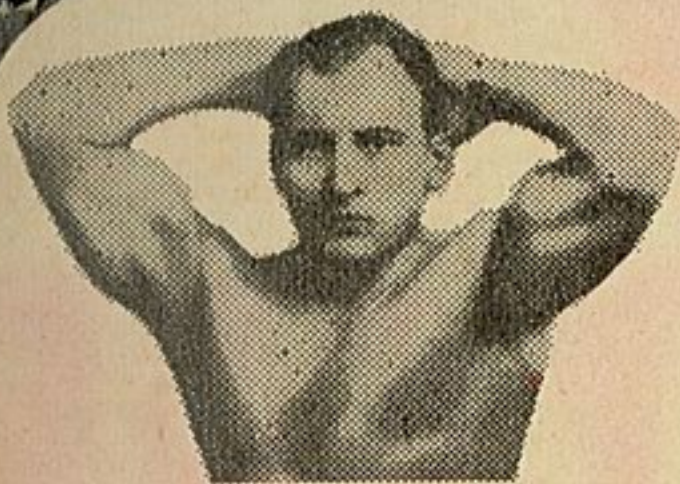
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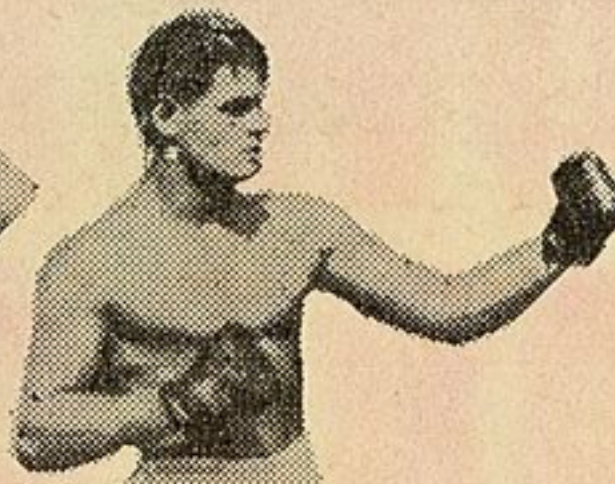




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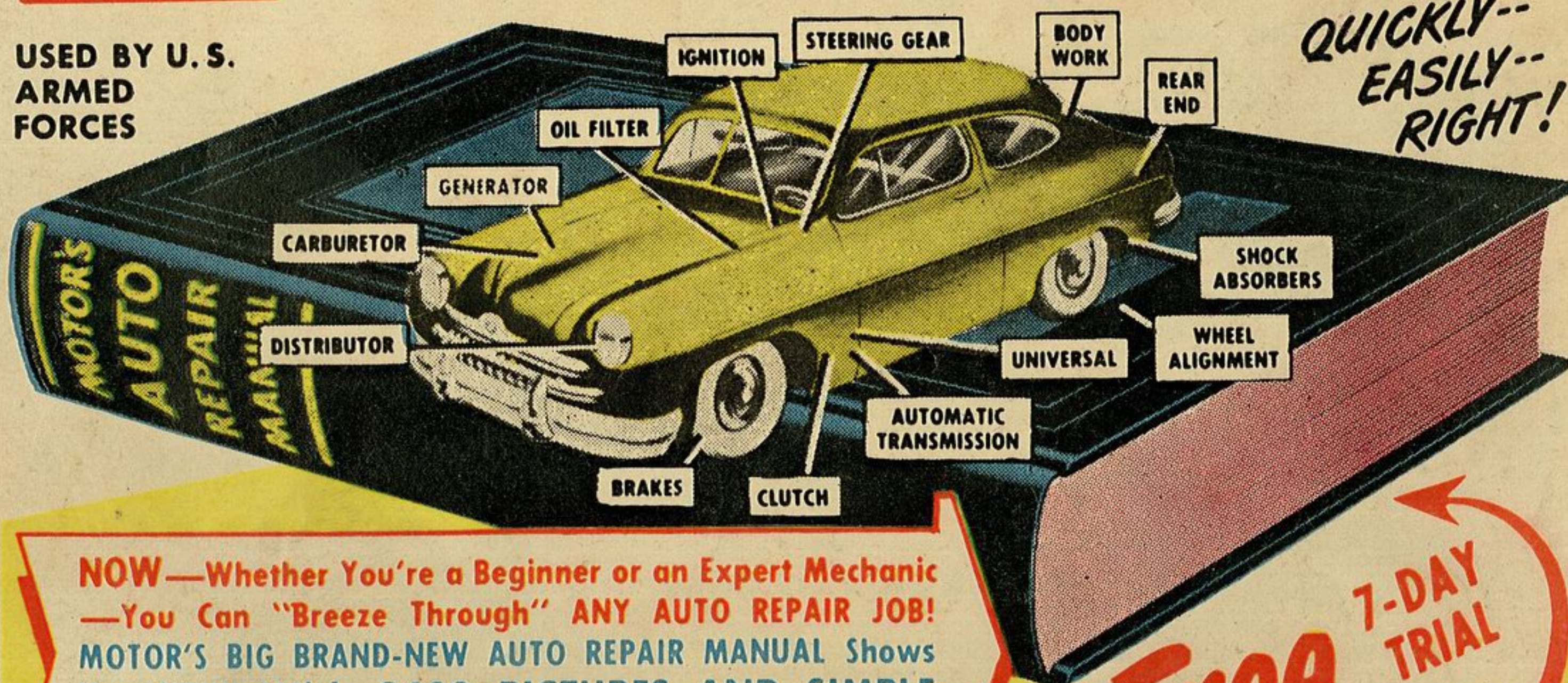
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